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MH plans for FoodCycler pilot program launch

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at a May 12 meeting of Minden Hills council, held virtually via Zoom and YouTube.

After the success of the FoodCycler waste diversion pilot programs in Dysart et al and Algonquin Highlands, which both saw more than 100 residents sign up for a lottery to purchase the countertop composters at a reduced rate, staff and council are expecting to see the same popularity in Minden Hills.

The FoodCycler is a device the size of a bread maker that can handle about two litres of food waste at a time, and uses electricity to quickly compost food waste into a finished compost product, according to a report by Nikki Payne, manager of waste facilities.

"Through the use of electricity, the device dries and grinds food waste into a dry, odourless, nutrient-dense by-product that is significantly reduced in weight and volume," reads her report. "The end product can be used as a fertilizer, and is free from bacteria, seeds and food-borne pathogens. Each 'cycle' of composting takes approximately four to eight hours, and uses approximately 0.8 kilowatt hours."

While the FoodCyclers retail for \$500 each, see COUNTERTOP page 3



First float of the season

Summer-like temperatures last weekend saw ice cream cones being enjoyed, patios being filled and some brave souls taking in their first float on the Gull River of the 2022 season. Clockwise from left: Mea Adamson, Faye Mortell, Susan Dow and Josh Hopkins celebrated Mea's birthday and life in general on a sunny day with a Gull River float. Overheard from the riverbank was Mortell yelling, "it's cold!" /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Total county-wide fire ban lifted

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

Within two hours of a total fire ban being declared on May 12 by each of the four

municipalities within Haliburton County, a fire call came in. Algonquin Highlands fire services, with the assistance of Minden Hills fire department, Haliburton Highlands OPP and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry responded to a large bush fire in

Algonquin Highlands.

While the fire was caused by what AH fire chief and county fire co-ordinator Michael French called "natural causes," being potentially related to hydro wires sparking, it was

see NO page 2



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- 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath, 4 Season Home/ Cottage on 3 Acres
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- 2350 Sq Ft 3 Bedroom 4 Season Open Concept Home/Cottage
- South-West Exposure on 102 Ft Frontage with Clean Sand Shoreline
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- Large Newer Dock With Solar Lights and Lots of Room For All Your Waterfront Toys
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No daytime burning without permits

from page 1

a sizeable fire a hectare in size that had firefighters on scene for seven hours because the bush is so dry.

“The one thing we really want to stress is that it’s not necessarily the impact of the fire itself, it’s the impact on the fire services in general, because all our resources in Dorset and Stanhope and a lot of resources from Minden were all tied up with that bushfire. You don’t have the opportunity to provide the other essential services in our community such as for structure fires and medical response, too.”

Extremely dry conditions caused in part by a lack of sufficient rainfall have resulted in a fire danger rating of “Extreme.”

“Right now we’re very susceptible to the dryness because there’s no canopy in the bush,” said French. “It’s usually there to block the sun, but right now the sun is going right down to the ground.”

That area of the ground, made up of decomposing organic material, is called the duff layer, which French said is so dry as a result of the sun “baking it,” with nothing to deflect the impact of the sun which has firefighters hoping for both rain and leaf cover. French said the same type of fire can happen as happened on May 12 simply by careless disposal of still-lit cigarettes.

A county-wide total ban was called earlier that day after the municipality's four fire chiefs had reviewed the day's indices from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. The indices share readings of, for example, the fuel moisture guide and the duff layer moisture relative to the humidity forecast, which result in ratings such as the Extreme rating of May 12. On May 18 at 12:01 a.m., after days of rain, the ban was lifted but provincial daytime burning policies are still in effect.

The total ban meant that residents could use propane barbecues and portable gas, propane or liquid-fuel cooking stoves, but could not have campfires or bonfires, use fireworks, charcoal barbecues, outdoor candles and lanterns, tiki torches, propane firepits or firebowls, chimineas, or burn leaves or brush at this time.

“We’re just trying to eliminate any source of ignition,” said French.

Daytime burning permits and firework permits had been

suspended until further notice.

French said in Haliburton County, there's "one voice, one message" from the four departments, as bans can vary by jurisdiction elsewhere.

“Right now in general, most municipalities have bans on,” he said.

There's zero tolerance for anyone not abiding by a burn ban.

"It's like fishing, you have to know what you're doing before you do it," he said. "Ignorance isn't an excuse."

French said the same night the ban was put into place, after the bushfire, a truck responded to a call about a fire occurring in Algonquin Highlands that resulted in the person responsible being billed over \$500 – that’s the bill per truck that attends the site in question. Those responsible for an uncontrolled burn during this time are facing even greater financial penalties, all based on Ministry of Transportation rates.

“If you have a fire during the burn ban, and it gets away on you, you’re responsible for all costs,” said French, and then, calculating the number of trucks deployed to the bushfire the day before, he said: “That call yesterday, if it wasn’t an act of nature, it probably would have resulted in a fine upwards of \$30,000 or \$40,000. It adds up fast.”

Those reporting fires happening during the day at this time should call 911.

“We take it very seriously because when we have a bush-fire, it impacts the sites, the lives of the community members who are at risk - each one of these firefighters come from their employment - the impact on the environment itself. Once a fire starts, it can go for miles without us being able to get ahead of it, just the way it is right now.”

To check on fire ban status in Minden Hills, call 249-802-3535. In Algonquin Highlands, call 705-766-0010.

A provincial daytime burning policy annually comes into effect during the fire season on April 1 until Oct. 31, meaning during that time residents in the fire region cannot have outdoor fires between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. without a permit. Residents are subject to fines if they are found to be in violation of these regulations.

Please note: visit www.algonquinhighlands.ca or www.mindenhills.ca for updates regarding fire bans in place.

Candidates readying for elections

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Provincial election

Voters in the Haliburton-Kawartha-Lakes Brock region will have nine candidates to choose from in the upcoming June 2 upcoming provincial election.

Gene Balfour, who previously ran in the federal election, will run again as the candidate for the Ontario Libertarian Party, Ben Prentice is running for the New Blue Party of Ontario and Fred Fischer is the Consensus Ontario candidate.

Also on the ballot, as reported in the May 4 *Minden Times*, Progressive Conservative long-time incumbent Laurie Scott, Liberal Don McBey, NDP Barbara Doyle, Green Tom Regina, Ontario Party Kerstin Kelly and None of the Above candidate Grant Dewar.

For more information on voting in the provincial election, including by mail or home visit, see www.elections.on.ca.

Municipal election

Registration for Ontario's municipal elections opened on May 2.

Anyone wishing to run for council has until 2 p.m. on Friday, August 19 to file nomination papers. Residents considering or wishing to run for council can find information and forms on their lower-tier municipality's website or by contacting the municipal offices.

As of press time, in Algonquin Highlands, current Ward 3 councillor Jennifer Dailloux has filed her nomination papers for a second term, while current deputy mayor and Ward 2 councillor Liz Danielsen has filed her nomination papers for mayor.

In Minden Hills, current Ward 1 councillor Bob Carter has filed his nomination papers for mayor, while fellow Ward 1 councillor Jennifer Hughey has filed her nomination papers

for a second term as councillor. Longtime councillor and current deputy mayor Lisa Schell has filed papers to run again as deputy mayor. Councillor Pam Sayne has filed to retain her position for a third term as Ward 2 councillor.

In Dysart et al, Daniel Roberts has filed for the Ward 2 councillor spot, while longtime school board trustee Gary Brohman has filed his nomination papers again for the English public school board spot. In Highlands East, Michel Charron of Verona has filed for the French separate school board trustee position.

The 2022 municipal and school board election will be held on Oct. 24.

For more information on voting in Algonquin Highlands, visit www.algonquinhighlands.ca/elections.php.

For more information on voting in Minden Hills, visit mindenhills.ca/clerks-department/elections/.



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Countertop composters soon available in Minden Hills

from page 1

that cost is reduced to \$300 through subsidies offered by FoodCycle for the pilot program. Minden Hills township will pay \$125 toward the remainder of the cost of each device, while participating residents will pay \$175. There are 100 units available.

"As we know food waste can be at least 30 per cent normally of residential food composition if not more," Payne said to council. "We're definitely trying to find ways of reducing the amount of waste going to landfill, it's always a benefit."

The FoodCycler can divert at least two tonnes of food waste in its lifetime, an overall food waste reduction of 200 tonnes through the pilot program in Minden.

Councillors approved Option 1 presented by staff, which was the purchase of 100 FoodCyclers without add-ons – and additional costs – including replacement filter sets for each unit, which would have increased the cost to residents from \$175 to \$200.

The overall cost to the township for the program is \$14,000 plus taxes. Payne's report notes the subsidies in place in 2021 are no longer available this year, and the township had budgeted for an initial cost of \$25,000 with a revenue from residential contributions to \$10,000 for a total cost to the township of \$15,000.

"Option 1 is the only option that would keep us within that net cost range, without increasing the resident's portion of the costs," said Payne's report. "Option 2 would cause the resident's portion of the cost to be raised to \$200. To keep this program affordable, that option is not recommended."

A 12-week program will ask participants for information on their experience with the

device.

"We're really hoping we get a lot of positive feedback, people interested," said Payne.

Councillors Bob Carter and Jean Neville asked about getting more devices, for those who aren't successful with the lottery.

"Just because this is the beginning doesn't mean it's the end," said Payne, adding that if there was interest, council could look to budgeting more for 2023 to continue the program.

Councillor Pam Sayne asked if there were ways the township could measure the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions accurately to show the cost benefit and environmental considerations.

"At estimated market costs of \$100/tonne of waste, these diverted tonnes have the opportunity to save the township \$20,000, meaning that this pilot program would provide a net profit of \$5,000," said Payne's report. "Every tonne of food waste diverted from landfill is estimated to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 1.3 tonnes of CO₂e. Based on this, 100 households could divert approximately 260 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions."

Scotch Line landfill survey

Councillors agreed to award the Ontario Landfill Survey of the Scotch Line landfill site to Coe Fisher Cameron Land Surveyors, out of Lindsay, as a sole source procurement after Payne said they were the only surveyors who had time to do the project.

The township received the amended Environmental Compliance Approval for the Scotch Line landfill site at the end of February, allowing the township to proceed with the design and construction of the Scotch Line transfer station. To be compliant with

the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, a plan of survey prepared, signed and sealed by an Ontario Land Surveyor showing the area of the site where waste has been or is to be deposited on the landfill site needs to be submitted by the end of August, according to Payne's report.

Coe Fisher Cameron will be surveying the entire Scotch Line landfill property at 2038 Scotch Line Road, including the existing waste boundaries, all watercourses onsite, the property limits and the hydro easement running along the south limit. The proposed project cost is \$25,000 plus work, though there could be variables in the costing depending on site unknowns including watercourses, conditions and brush.

Disconnect from work

CAO/clerk Trisha McKibbin spoke to the new *Ontario Working for Workers Act, 2021*, which has made amendments to the Employment Standards Act, 2000 for employers with 25 or more employees.

"The aim of a Disconnect from Work policy is to encourage all employees to disconnect from job duties, and work-related communication when they are not expected to work and to encourage employees to balance work, family and personal responsibilities," McKibbin told council.

The term "disconnecting from work" means not engaging in work-related communications including emails, telephone calls, video calls, or sending or reviewing other messages.

McKibbin said an employee's ability to disconnect depends on the township's operational needs, and the duties and obligations of the employee's position subject to their contract or applicable collective agreement.

Councillor Jean Neville, asked, tongue-in-cheek, if the policy includes councillors.

"Does this cover council members as well, so we don't have to listen to complaints during weekends and after 8 o'clock at night, kind of thing?"

"This is a fabulous point, what this is, it doesn't impact what your regular roles and responsibilities are of your position so as a councillor your accessibility to the public ... but it does not lay out strict parameters for that," said McKibbin.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said she had had a similar thought.

"I think we actually do need to take that into consideration and make the public aware that we are not accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, we do have lives outside of work, we have families and children that we are responsible for and if I don't answer someone on a weekend, I no longer feel guilty for that - unless there's something on fire, then that's completely different," she said. "Good points, Councillor Neville, we need to take some mental health days for ourselves as well and I want the public to be aware of that."

McKibbin said the policy also encourages employees to use vacation and sick days as such, and not use them to work from home.

Councillor Pam Sayne said she has found the public to be respectful of times they call, generally speaking.

"I've been very fortunate with that," she said. "If there is an issue with dogs constantly barking on the weekend, I don't begrudge people trying to get ahold of me and see what we can do. I think that kind of comes with the terrain, we don't have a regular work schedule and I think that's part of learning the rhythm of being here."

www.mindenhills.ca

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

May 26 – Regular Council Meeting

June 9 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Have an emergency preparedness kit ready for incidents such as power outages and flooding. Check your extension cords for overloaded or damage, replace where needed. Keep 100' of garden hose with an attached nozzle connected and ready for use. Always check with your local Fire Department for questions, instructions and permits by visiting www.mindenhills.ca.

COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Minden Hills Parks, including Rotary and Panorama Parks will open for the Victoria Day weekend. Our playgrounds and Tennis Courts are now open for your enjoyment. Please note that the Minden Hills Boardwalk remains closed to pedestrians and cyclists until further notice, due to safety issues. We ask that you obey the signs and barricades.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently recruiting for the following positions within the Township:

- Building Inspector/Municipal Law Enforcement Officer
- Community Services Casual Operator
- Summer Students in Parks
- Summer Students at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

Please email sprentice@mindenhills.ca or visit www.mindenhills.ca/employment-opportunities/ for more information.



HHW EVENT DAYS

Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al and Highlands East have partnered to provide multiple household hazardous waste collection days throughout the County. Visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for a full list of dates, and items that will be accepted.

TENDER OPPORTUNITIES

Keep informed of current projects available to bid on by visiting our website at <https://mindenhills.ca/tenders/> for a list of available tender opportunities.

SEDGWICK BRIDGE CLOSURE AND DETOUR

Effective Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. the Sedgwick Bridge will be closed to complete the replacement of the bridge. There will be a detour in place during the construction; please watch for detour signs.

For more information visit www.mindenhills.ca.

VICTORIA DAY WEEKEND

Minden Hills Council & Staff wish everyone a Safe and Happy Victoria Day Weekend. Administration Offices and services will be CLOSED on Monday May 23rd.



Return of the Haliburton County Farmers’ Market

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

Haliburton County Farmers’ Markets are back to offer a cultural experience and the opportunity to support your neighbours. The Haliburton County Farmers’ Market will be open in Haliburton on Tuesdays, Minden on Saturdays, and Stanhope on Sundays starting this spring. The farmers’ markets will feature 41 vendors in total, all from Haliburton County or close neighbouring municipalities com-

ing together to bring “food, art, culture, and community to the entire county,” said market manager Lauren Phillips. “They are a meeting place for friends and families, they are a hub of art and culture, and they are a place where you can come and support your friends and neighbours by shopping locally and supporting small businesses, thus keeping money right here in our community,” she said. This year, the markets will be back to pre-COVID locations in both Haliburton’s Head Lake Park along the pathway next to the lake, and downtown in Minden at the corner of

Prince Street and Milne Street. Phillips said, “We are excited about [moving back to our pre-COVID locations] as it will make it easier for people with mobility issues to come to and enjoy our markets.” The Haliburton farmer’s market opened on Tuesday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. The Minden market begins Saturday, May 21, and the Stanhope location will open Friday, June 17 at 1095 North Shore road at the Stanhope Community Centre. Ron Lofthouse, owner of Lofthouse Beeswax Company, said that he is excited to return as a vendor at all three locations of the

farmers’ markets this season. “We had 30,000 people through our markets last year, and we look forward to seeing them all again this year,” said Lofthouse. Phillips said that customers and vendors are not required to wear masks while outdoors, but mask-wearing is still recommended by the health unit. Buskers and not-for-profit booths are welcomed back for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications are available upon request: incrediblehcfma@gmail.com.

County council pauses on procurement co-ordinator position

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a May 11 county council committee of the whole meeting held virtually.

A newly created procurement co-ordinator position, a recommendation from the county’s service delivery review, has not yet been filled. The position was first posted in Aug. 2021, and offered to an applicant who declined. It was reposted in Oct. 2021 and Feb. 2022 and offered to a qualified applicant, but they were unable to accept after failing to find housing in the area. Andrea Bull, director of corporate services, said filling the position was important in order for the county to begin realizing the cost savings identified in the service delivery review, which she noted were considered possible because of collaborative procurement between the county and local municipalities. Bull recommended to county council an alternative recruitment method to fill the vacant position – that the position instead focus on recruiting candidates with a basic financial background, a willingness to complete the required two-year program with the Ontario Public Buyers Association, and mentorship and support with a fully-qualified procurement professional from a neighbouring municipality, such as Peterborough.

“Based on our recent recruitment initiatives for other positions, staff believe that this change will broaden the pool of candidates, and increase our chances of finding the right individual for the role,” she said in her report. While the employee is completing the courses, on their own time outside of the regularly scheduled work week, they would receive 85 per cent of the salary for the position. “I think this is really creative thinking, actually,” said Councillor Andrea Roberts. “It’s a very unique position ... A lot of people have good financial sense, the willingness to learn is exciting for a lot of people.” Councillor Carol Moffatt said she appreciated the innovative idea, but said she confessed to struggling a bit. “It feels to me like we’re trying to shove a square peg in a round hole,” she said. “We’ve identified we are interested in going in this direction but are we trying too hard to make it work? We seem to be doing OK now with collaborative purchasing. I guess I’m looking for the risk reward or cost benefit. Longer term vision is what we want and I see how this would provide for that, but I just have a little concern that - are we trying too hard to make something work that the universe isn’t offering up naturally?” She noted there are vacancies in municipal jobs not just in Haliburton County, but across

the province and beyond. CAO Mike Rutter said the procurement co-ordinator role is not unique, exists in “just about every” municipality, and is a fairly standard position. “I absolutely agree that we’re doing quite well in procurement but it’s coming at a cost,” he said, noting that other staff are working on projects “off the corner of their desks,” and it would be helpful to have someone in the role committed to doing the work, thus freeing up others to focus on their own core responsibilities. He said he was concerned that additional investment and positions had been added during the budget process without realizing the cost savings of the service delivery review, and that the county could potentially be going into the budget in 2023 with a brand new council, many new faces, and without those savings as well.

“I’m just concerned, I guess that’s the reason we’re kind of in a let’s keep moving on this and find someone,” he said. Additionally, council discussed that Dysart et al has hired a procurement co-ordinator to serve that municipality. Rutter said the two positions were expected to be complementary as opposed to being in conflict. Moffatt suggested further conversation be had around the service delivery review prior to moving ahead with the alternative recruiting suggestion. The next steering review committee meeting is scheduled to occur in June.

Councillor Pat Kennedy agreed with delaying the decision, wondering about the concept of having grant writing and research as part of the position, and questioned whether there might be further opportunity for an internal hire if the job posting was altered. “I guess I’m going to say this now: service delivery review, single tier government, shoreline preservation bylaw, I couldn’t be more disappointed than where we are this late in the mandate in doing a whole bunch of things and I’ll limit my comment to that,” said Councillor Brent Devolin, opting to abstain from voting on delaying the decision until after a discussion in June. Councillor Cec Ryall said he hesitated to vote and said he thought, “we should be going ahead with something.” “Taking some time to take a second look at the job given the concerns that have been expressed is not stopping it, it’s just providing some breathing room to get it right,” said Moffatt. “Yes we’re close to the end of our mandate but that doesn’t mean we just stop doing things and go home.”

The proposed changes to the position were deferred to the service delivery review implementation steering committee meeting in June.

Pavement markings contract recommended

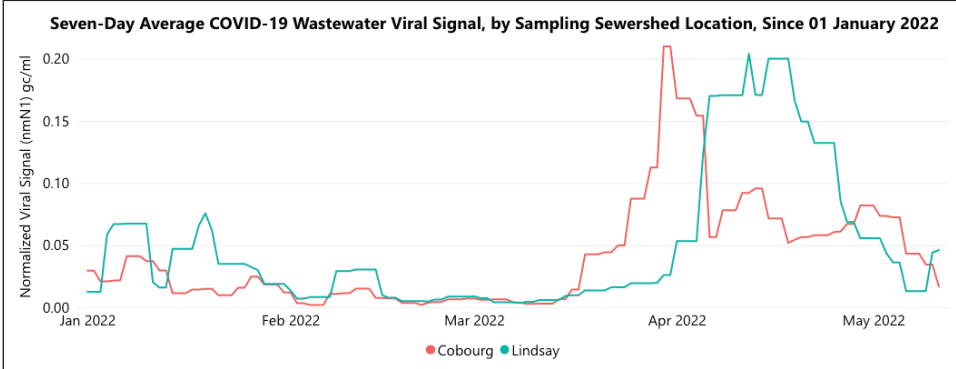
Staff have recommended the contract for the supply and application of pavement markings be awarded to Provincial Road Markings Inc. though almost 30 per cent over the 2022 approved maintenance budget. Robert Sutton, director of public works, said pavement markings generally include the longitudinal yellow and white lines, arrows, stop blocks, crosswalks and hatching. His report said the Municipality of Dysart et al and the township of Algonquin Highlands participated in the previous pavement marking tender and this year, the township of Minden Hills has also joined the tender request. All organizations participating in the tender award and administer their parts separately.

Provincial Road Markings Inc. was the low bidder at \$199,961, the county’s portion of that contract being \$186,671 plus HST and the approved budget amount being \$145,000. Sutton said there are issues going on with supplies and materials, and that staff is looking at some cost saving options to save anywhere from \$20,000 - \$30,000 going forward. “In 2020, staff discussed with council potential cost saving options of painting the white edge lines every second year,” said Sutton’s report. “Currently, staff are recommending that the contract be awarded as tendered. However, staff are currently reviewing the county’s inventory as well as current condition of our pavement markings and will return to council with possible cost saving option(s) for council’s further consideration and direction.”

COVID-19 Lab Confirmed Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by Municipality, Since 01 January 2022								
County	Municipality	Active cases (current)	2022 Total cases	2022 Case rate per 100,000 population	Non-outbreak cases (cumulative)	Outbreak cases (cumulative)	Hospitalizations (cumulative)	Deaths (cumulative)
▲	Haliburton Algonquin Highlands	1	24	948.2	24	0	1	0
	Haliburton Dysart et al	2	148	2,170.1	114	34	5	2
	Haliburton Highlands East	2	42	1,194.2	37	5	0	0
	Haliburton Minden Hills	2	96	1,450.8	80	16	1	0
	Kawartha Lakes Kawartha Lakes	48	2,708	3,328.1	1,766	942	61	25
Northumberland	Alnwick/Haldimand	4	212	2,695.1	189	23	5	2
	Brighton	11	314	2,481.2	275	39	14	3
	Cobourg	6	597	2,928.5	379	218	12	3
	Cramahe	3	162	2,508.9	143	19	8	2
	Hamilton Township	2	223	1,820.6	201	22	4	0
	Port Hope	7	350	2,010.9	255	95	5	2
	Trent Hills	10	528	3,953.0	278	250	14	4
	Total HKPRDHU	98	5,404	2,825.9	3,741	1,663	130	43
	All Municipalities							

Health unit reporting 14 outbreaks throughout region

Three new lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 were reported in the May 16 update from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit. Fourteen outbreaks are currently in progress, none in Haliburton County. The health unit reminds the public that data seen here only reflects positive results of those with access, which is limited, to PCR testing. /Screenshot from hkpr.on.ca.



Info from the Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative Data and Vizualization Hub shows the seven-day average COVID-19 wastewater viral signal, by sampling sewershed locations in Cobourg and Lindsay, since Jan. 1 of this year. The wastewater program analyses virus shedding among residents to estimate the burden of COVID-19 in the community, and serves as a secondary indicator for retrospective and current COVID-19 prevalence in the community. /May 16 screenshot from www.hkpr.on.ca

Library patrons can pick up free pass to parks

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the May 11 Haliburton County Public Library board meeting, and from a Friends of the HCPL press release.

Ontario Parks Passes can be loaned out for one week from the library to library card holders, offering free all-day entrance to provincial parks. Pass holders are also recommended to get a daily vehicle permit for the date they are visiting the parks to guarantee their spot. The vehicle permit is free with the pass, and can be reserved at reservations.ontarioparks.ca up to a week in advance of a trip. Additional information is available at 1-888-ONT-PARK or at the Parks Ontario blog at <https://www.ontarioparks.com/parksblog/library-lending-permit/>.

Tuning in from home

Just before the holiday weekend, the HCPL will be adding further content to the Kanopy streaming service, from Warner Bros., MGM and Paramount Pictures, in addition to what is already available including Criterion films, foreign films and revolving feature films. Kanopy allows library patrons to access for free thousands of TV shows, films including documentaries, and kids programming from TVs, phones or tablets and desktop and laptop computers by signing in with their library card.

"We know that when people are up at the cottage, or in the local community and it's a rainy day, you might want to watch a movie and we just want to increase our choices," said Chris Stephenson, HCPL CEO/chief li-

brarian. "We're able to do that right now, we want to meet the demand, it's a great idea and we want to make it happen."

Generally Kanopy streaming service is typically a feature offered at larger libraries.

"Thanks to the generous donation by the Rotary Club of Haliburton, it's been made possible to Haliburton County Public Library," Stephenson told the *Times*. "Once you create a Kanopy account, each person with a library card will have five credits per month to access films, documentaries, tv series, children's programming, and learning courses. At the moment there are several films and documentaries on Kanopy related to current events in Ukraine."

Kanopy Kids allows for unlimited watching of movies, TV shows, language learning episodes and family-friendly documentaries.

For more information visit haliburtoncpl.kanopy.com.

Accessibility at the library

The library's new website will be accessible, and the library's rebranding includes use of a font that is more accessible and clearer to read.

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts, who sits on the library board, said in the past when she had received the librarians' report, the style of the font was fine but it was quite light using a device. Stephenson thanked her for sharing.

"Accessibility takes many forms as you know, and often in my experience, for every person that does eventually speak up, there might be five or 10 people waiting in the wings that wished they'd said something," said Stephenson. "It really does help us when you point it out."

Stephenson said they'd recently received a letter from a patron who asked for name tags on staff if they're wearing a mask, so they could be more easily recognized, and also said when she's speaking to staff through the glass installed at library desks, she can't tell what people are saying because of sound being muffled through masks and the glass. Stephenson said an idea from the dentists' office is to install technology that helps sound get around the glass, which is in place to protect staff and patrons during the ongoing pandemic.

"Thanks to this one comment from a patron, we're going to roll this out in probably the next 10 days," said Stephenson. "But again, how many people have struggled to understand what someone's saying because of our masks and distance. And the glass is here to stay, it's built into the desk quite

frankly and we have to think long-term about everyone and their access at the desk."

Mega Book Nook Sale

The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library will be holding a mega book nook sale at the Minden Library on May 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The sale will be held in the book nook as well as outdoors on the library balcony.

The sale offers a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, cookbooks, gardening, coffee table books, science fiction/fantasy, spiritual and other non-fiction books.

Payment is by donation. All money raised by the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library supports library enhancements and programs.



Time for two

John and Ruth McGee from Thornbury pause to watch the brave souls daring to enter the still-cold waters of the Gull River on the afternoon of May 14. /SUE TIFFIN Staff



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IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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Summer days

I LOVE HEARING stories about what summer was like in those days that feel like yesterday, for some of you. While fathers stayed home to work in the city and lived to reunite on the weekends, mothers and their children who could do so would come to the cottage for the entire summer, boating into town or to the lake store for supplies. Sometimes those supplies meant penny candy and frosty Pop Shoppe bottles. Kids from the city became part of the local kid pack, eventually going to dances at Medley's or the Golden Slipper, even getting jobs in town as part of their summers in the county.

My summers in Minden, both prior to moving to the area and after, were spent at my Aunt Bernice and Uncle Gord's resort, tearing down the hill near the Hayes and Gennings trailers on the borrowed Big Wheels bikes of my cousins, waving to the Lesters boating, eating a bit of corn on the cob from the corn roast but way more burnt marshmallows, really, and ensuring that at least one of us won the frog race that my dad – the frog whisperer – trained us all to be champions in. One last visit to the lakeside store for penny candy and frosty Pop Shoppe bottles was still the one promise that made the start of the journey home at the end of the summer less glum.

Summer is coming now, to the Highlands. Times have changed – the same place we used to catch the frogs for the frog race is made up of lakeside condos now, rather than tire swings, and the little beach we used to meet up on for sparklers at night, digging our toes into the sand, is a lawn.

But, we have those memories.

As the warm weather crowds come to spend even a week of the year in the place we all have chosen to call home, they'll be making their own memories, and we get to be a part of that with them as we continue to appreciate and enjoy this beautiful part of the world.

Together, we have a summer ahead that looks to offer plenty of warmth to store in our brains to get us through the upcoming winter: farmers' markets, car shows, fairs, movie theatres, land trust walks and history chats, Canada Day celebrations, dinner take-out, floats

down the river, art classes, chip trucks, live music, the truck pull, the opera, yard sales, fishing derbies, live theatre, summer reads, barbecues, heritage days, trail hikes, the art and craft festival, boat rides, chip trucks (yes, they're absolutely listed here twice), Pride, running races, en plein air

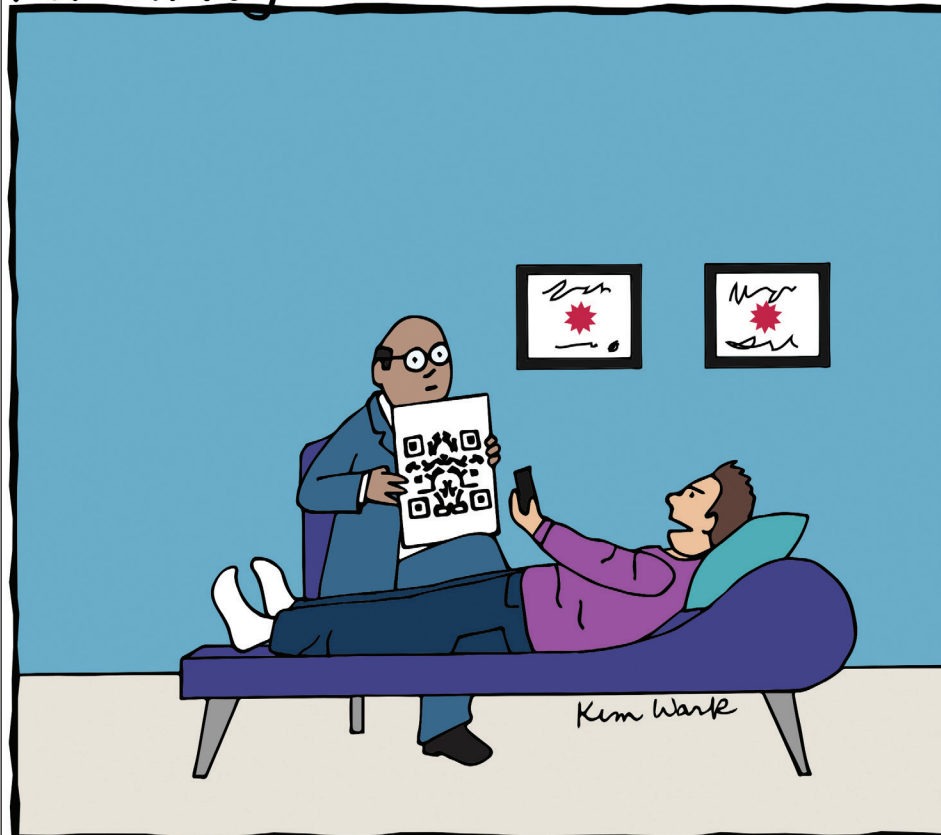
outings, softball leagues, patios and of course our gardens and that to-do list we might get to after just one more cup of coffee (or mouthful of penny candy) in the sun. Or embrace the new normal of remembering how fulfilling it is to slow down and just take it all in.

We can do so safely and respectfully. Wear your safety gear on the water, drive slowly, brake for turtles, bonfire consciously, use alcohol responsibly if at all, mask up, stay home when sick, and leave the land as you found it, or perhaps even a bit better with less litter if you can.

We can't go back to what once was, but one day we might look back on these days, too, and remember how wonderful we made them.

**SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

Kwarky



"Hey, this isn't a QR code."

The incredible escaping canoe

THE OTHER day, I placed a canoe on top of my car, balanced it perfectly, and watched it settle on the roof racks. Then, after I turned my back on it to pick up a length of rope to tie it on with, I spun around just in time to see the canoe slide off the roof of my car and land its nose on the front quarter panel of my friend's car.

Some people would call this an unfortunate accident. But those of us who know canoes, understand it was merely doing what canoes do.

As Canadians, we have this idyllic image of the peaceful, ever faithful, obedient canoe. It is the icon that helped build Canada as we know it. It carried Indigenous people to their hunting, gathering, and fishing grounds. It moved them to their seasonal homes and allowed them to wander. Much later, it helped the coureur du bois delve into the wilderness to explore and trade furs. And, over the years, it has become a symbol of Canadian recreation and adventure. I doubt there is a human-inhabited lake or river in Canada, that hasn't seen one.

Books, including by our own Jim Poling Sr., have been written about them. Movies, magazine and newspaper articles, and documentaries have featured them. I'm sure a song or two and a poem or three have also mentioned them prominently.

But what all these romanticized images of the canoe always fail to mention is their one dark secret. Yes, every canoe is continually trying to escape.

Some canoes are worse than others, of

course. When I was younger, I had an old fibreglass 17-footer that would leave me the minute I set foot on shore. If I recall correctly, it left me stranded in a duck blind or two and on more than a few beaver dams. Once, it escaped with me in it and the paddles on shore.

The canoe I mentioned at the beginning of this column clearly has a wild streak in it too. But the incident was also not too unusual. Canoes will just as readily escape

on land as they will on water. If you don't believe me, ask yourself why those taut ropes you tied a canoe atop your car with are dangerously loose by the time you hit the corner? Or why that canoe leapt off the car in front of you when there was 400 yards of rope tying it down.

In my experience, the two places you can expect a canoe escape attempt most are at a dock and in white water. The

former is for those canoes who want a slow dramatic goodbye. The latter for those that want a clean break.

The point is a good canoe can make Houdini look like an amateur.

You can't actually blame a canoe for this. I mean what do they get out of the relationship?

We drag them across gravel, mud and beaver dams, we sit in them, we make them carry us across lakes and down rivers and rapids. We sit in them and make the go where we want to go, without once asking them their thoughts on the matter.

I bet a little escapism keeps them sane. Which is good. I mean, no one wants their canoe to flip out.

**STEVE GALEA**
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

The beaver ate my dock

I TRY TO be Mr. Nice with my critter neighbours at the lake. It is becoming more difficult, however. Much more difficult, especially this spring. I feed and comfort the little birds: the sparrows, nuthatches and chickadees. And, I don't shout at the bullying blue jays and crows when they horn in, chasing the hungry little guys away from the feeders.

I'm also calm and gentle with the chipmunks. Obviously, they are not affected by COVID, because they have multiplied by the thousands during the pandemic. They have brought their relatives and friends to my place to dig holes wide and deep enough to swallow an 18-wheeler.



JIM POLING SR.
From Shaman's Rock

I understand they must dig for their tunnelling systems, but why any tiny rodent wants to claw through hardpan and packed road gravel is a mystery to me. There are hundreds of acres of soft, easy digging soil around my lake.

Playing Mr. Nice is hardest when it comes to squirrels. The black squirrels and their grey cousins are relatively respectful and law-abiding. They don't chatter at me when I catch them trying to steal something.

Red squirrels, however, are unredeemable career criminals. They respect no property or possessions. When I try to talk to them about leading more positive and productive lives, they mock and taunt me.

Two of their cousins, red flying squirrels, chewed their way into my place a few years ago. When they couldn't get into the food cupboards, they chewed – totally out of spite – a trophy lake trout I had mounted on the wall.

Last month I discovered that red squirrels tried to destroy my new car. I brought it in for routine servicing and a tech came running into the customer waiting room with bad news. The red squirrels had started packing engine spaces with acorns. The cleanout cost me \$60.

When I returned home later in the day, two red squirrels were sitting in a tree beside my parking spot. They pointed at me and began chattering and laughing.

Squirrels never seem to have enough places to store their acorns.

This spring, I decided to tidy up my ATV shed. I have a vacuum there and sometimes the hose is plugged into the blower end instead of the suctioning end. This day the hose was on the blower end and when I turned the power on, it began raining acorns.

Raccoons enjoy hanging around my place and I try to be Mr. Nice with them. It's not easy because they are sneaky and come at night. They get into the bird feeders, not just taking a snack but tearing them down and carrying them off into the woods.

I've taken to trapping them – in safe and comfortable wire cages, of course. I spray their tail tips with fluorescent orange paint and release them into a far-off Crown forest.

I'm waiting for the morning when I look out and see a cage occupied by a raccoon with an orange tail.

This spring I received the ultimate insult from my critter neighbours.

Every fall I unhook my dock and tow it down the shoreline and into a protected bay where it will not be damaged by shifting ice. Every spring, I tow it back and reattach it to the shore.

Bringing it back this year, I noticed it was floating very low on one end. I took a crow bar and pulled off some boards to check the floats.

What a shock! Two floats were gone, and so were the boards that held them in place. All that remained of the holding boards were gnawed stubs – the unmistakable chew marks of beaver.

Sometime during the winter, beavers had chewed away the wooden supports, somehow removed two Styrofoam floats and created a cave-like space where they had started to build a comfortable home.

It took several hours and some money to return the dock to its useful state. When the repairs were complete, I sat down exhausted and thought: I must stop being Mr. Nice.

Later, after a few refreshments, my thinking changed. My critter neighbours were here first and I was the intruder.

So, I guess I'll continue to play Mr. Nice and simply put up with their antics.



Spring to life

Ontario's provincial flower, the trillium, is a spring ephemeral favoured by white-tailed deer. Trillium are myrmecochorous, meaning their seeds are primarily dispersed by ants who collect and carry the seeds back to their nest where they eat the elaiosome and leave the rest behind where it eventually germinates. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

letters to the editor

Ford: anti-people, anti-planet

To the Editor,

The Glasgow Climate Pact resulting from the Conference of the Parties 26 (COP26) expresses alarm and utmost concern, stressing the urgency for *ambitious* and *immediate* climate action.

Once elected, Premier Ford gutted Ontario's conservation authorities' ability to protect communities against flooding and erosion, weakened its Endangered Species Act in order to promote development, escalated the use of Ministerial Zoning Orders to push through development on sensitive ecological lands and ripped out existing electric vehicle (EV) charging stations and renewable energy projects that cost taxpayers millions of dollars. His plans to build highway 413 through wetlands and valuable agricultural land will increase greenhouse gas emissions. There are too many other destructive actions to list here but these next two are particularly alarming.

The proposed mining for minerals in the area that Ford calls "the Ring of Fire," will result in the release of an enormous amount of methane, a dangerous greenhouse gas. Indigenous people

call this area the Breathing Lands and have lived off the land there since time immemorial. While we need minerals for batteries for EVs, they can be obtained elsewhere, including the recycling of old batteries. We point fingers at Brazil for allowing the destruction of the Amazon rainforest, but this will be even more disastrous. It will also severely impact the diversity of wildlife, including caribou, on which Indigenous people depend for their sustenance.

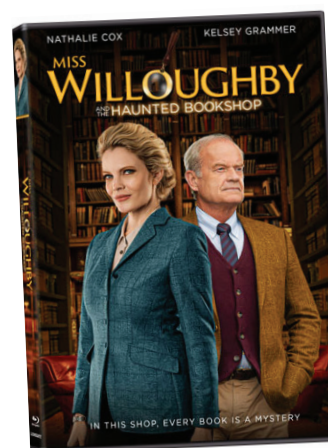
Secondly, Ford scrapped the climate adaptation plan that was created for Ontario in 2009. Then he used taxpayers money to create a new adaptation plan which was completed in November 2021. This new plan has not been made available to the public or even Ontario's Auditor General, in spite of the Freedom of Information act. This is alarming. This report should be made available immediately.

Please consider the above when you vote on June 2.

Susan Hay
Haliburton

More letters on page 8

HCPL's DVD of the Month - May



Move over Miss Marple, there's a smart, stylish new detective in town – meet Miss Willoughby! Orphaned as a child and raised on a sprawling estate by an ex-marine (Kelsey Grammer, *Frasier*), Elizabeth Willoughby (Nathalie Cox) is a university professor possessing extraordinary skills in history, strategy, literature, and martial arts, not to mention an insatiable appetite for investigation. When old friends Helen and Oliver Deakens call and ask her to come and look into some strange happenings at their antique bookstore, Miss Willoughby is baffled. The place appears to be haunted! Is someone playing a trick? Is it a hallucination? Or is something more sinister going on? Make some tea, grab some biscuits, and settle in to watch this thrilling whodunit-adventure and find out!

Miss Willoughby and the Haunted Bookshop is available at the Haliburton County Public library. Come check it out today!

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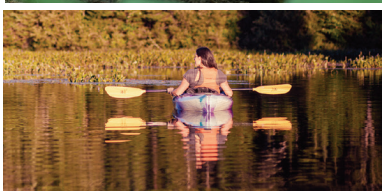
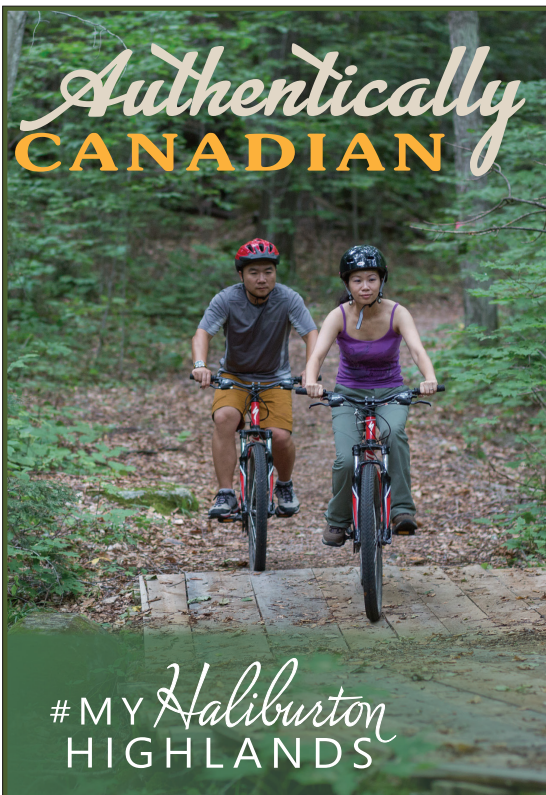
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Bill (left) and Brady, co-owners of Minden Equipment Rental, pose with their mannequin for the Minden Mannequin Contest. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Susan from Pet Tyme - Animal Crackers and her mannequin are participants in the Minden Mannequin Contest, a contest for Minden businesses to take part for the chance to win cash prizes and spread joy around town from the May long weekend until Labour Day.

Minden Mannequin Madness welcomes 'whimsical and fun'

Minden is expecting the arrival of some new members of the business community this summer.

The influx will not perhaps be as animated as the local merchants and clerks, but they should bring a smile to the faces of people passing by, a much needed tonic for this time of year. These new additions will be the creations of the owners and staff of businesses participating in Minden Mannequin Madness.

The Minden Mannequin Madness is a re-introduction of a contest from a generation ago when the then-publisher of the *Minden Times*, Jack Brezina, encouraged the business community to create scarecrows or mannequins to display in front of their businesses. The idea was to create something that reflected the business or something totally whimsical and fun. Accordingly, the exact same concept is at play this time.

"I wanted to generate some interest and,

dare I say it, some excitement in the village," said Brezina. "To give people a reason to stroll through the village, and smile as they take selfies with the colourful creations."

Underlying all this is a contest in which a panel of judges will select three winners. Cash prizes will be awarded for the most creative mannequin as well as the funniest and the most "Minden." Once a website is in place, there will also be an opportunity for a people's choice award, allowing the public to vote for their favourites.

So keep an eye on Minden for some additional characters appearing in front of the local business scene this summer and discover yet another reason to smile.

Businesses are invited to register for this contest by contacting Jack Brezina at kevker@sympatico.ca.

Submitted

letters to the editor

Ford: Unsafe at any speed

To the Editor,

If you had to characterize Doug Ford as a vehicle, what would he be? Come on, give it a try. I know what I see after watching him these four long years. To me he is a misfiring, gas guzzling, oil burning, smoky exhaust spewing old F-100 pickup. Steering is loose, brakes, suspension and body mounts are shot and the rear end clunks over the slightest bump. In short, this old junker needs to be taken off the road.

To the minority who will benefit from Ford's re-election he is a sleek shiny drug kingpin's ride. They will continue to count on him to score their next development hit through which they get a buzz from paving over and building on more farmland and wetlands, and otherwise satiating their exploitative addictions.

To the majority of us in Ontario, and that includes the countless non-human beings we share this province with, Doug is a big old Caterpillar D9 bulldozer deliberately and systematically knocking down and plowing under everything that matters to re-creating and maintaining a civil society living in harmony with nature. Bulldozer

Ford has long ago lost whatever conscious awareness he ever may have had about the fact that he is reliant upon the natural world for his own survival. Sadly, members of Ford's cabal and many of his blind faith supporters share his illusions as the climate cliff moves ever closer.

Given the shrinkage within the collective memory, here's just one reminder of a program crushed by bulldozer Ford. In 2017, Lindsay was included in the basic income pilot project. Our MPP Laurie Scott was, "certain that the program would lead to improved help for Lindsay area residents." Before the 2018 election she said, "we will continue to support this pilot project and look forward to seeing the results." If only you had spoken the truth Laurie. Take a good look in your mirror and imagine being poor!

If re-elected I see Ford as a hearse transporting a coffin full of everything that really matters to people and our planet. Vote to take him off the road!

**John Gibb
Minden**



Collaborative community

A Trillium Lakelands District School Board community breakfast was held on May 13 at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, the first after a pandemic-related hiatus. Community breakfasts will also take place in Muskoka and City of Kawartha Lakes. "These breakfasts provide the opportunity for TLDSB to showcase student learning, and for attendees to network with other local agencies and organizations to raise mutual awareness of the programs and services available in our communities," said Sinead Fegan, TLDSB communications. Participants included Julie Bosker from EarlyON Child and Family Centre, Jennifer Blake from Canopy Support Services, Tim Tofflemire from Community Living Trent Highlands, Patti Tallman and Heather Reid from Haliburton County Development Corporation, Chris Stephenson from Haliburton County Public Library, Nycole Duncan from YWCA Peterborough Haliburton Women's Centre - HERS program, Melanie Jones from Point in Time and TLDSB representatives Bruce Reain, Gary Brohman, David Morrison, Paul Goldring and Wes Hahn. /Submitted photos



Anabelle Craig, left, and Laren Main performed at the TLDSB community breakfast event on May 13.

TLDSB offering tutoring in-person and virtually

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the Trillium Lakelands District School Board meeting held at Archie Stouffer Elementary School on May 10.

Tutoring will be offered in-school, after school, and this summer, with support from a grant received through the Reaching Forward Tutoring Program.

Jay McJanet, superintendent of learning, said almost 60 tutors across the board are available to work with students who need support.

Virtual support is also available to be "equitable and accessible," with teachers signing up to work one-on-one with English language learners and French immersion students, focusing on math from Grades 4 to 8, and in-person literacy learners from kindergarten to Grade 3.

He said there has been "a great response" from students.

Director Wes Hahn said tutoring will be available up until September.

Second quarter results overview

Superintendent of business Tim Ellis said the board is currently projected to be in a surplus position under one million dollars depending on short-term disability usage in the third and fourth quarters; continuing education, virtual learning and alternative education credits; the ability to run professional development sessions; emerging technology needs and transportation recoveries by the Ministry.

The board has approved an operating budget of \$225 million for the 2021 – 2022 school year.

"The current school year has been challenging with the pandemic and unexpected increase in enrolment forcing the board to re-configure its operating model," said a report from Ellis. "The waves of variants have proved challenging with short term disability amounts being unpredictable to forecast."

The second quarter of the year saw a short-term move to remote learning through

provincial and public health restrictions as a result of the ongoing pandemic at the beginning of January.

"Since then, the updated guidance from public health partners has allowed local decision-making on keeping schools or classrooms open. This local decision-making has proven difficult for planning and operations. To date, board spending is lower by \$1.7 million compared to last year. The amount expended to Feb. 28 is \$116.8 million dollars as opposed to \$118.6 million dollars last year. The committed and expended amount reflects approximately 52 per cent of the board's budget which is less than last year."

Ellis said notable variances include that education assistant costs are favourable compared to last year as a result of timing of compensation; classroom, school-based technology and elementary supply purchases are lower as a result of the large amount of purchases of Chromebooks since the beginning of the pandemic; transportation is lower due to the cancellation of Simcoe-Muskoka Catholic District School board's agreement with TLDSB and facilities supply items are lower due to purchases relating to federal COVID-19 projects no longer attributed to that account.

Intervention teams in place

In September, TLDSB plans to have more teacher staffing and intervention teams that will support directly in schools in place.

"We've already made that investment in the last year with our consultants and coaches at the elementary level and secondary level, but our intervention teams, that is a new addition that will be in place in September," said Wes Hahn, TLDSB director. "They will be teams that will be very mobile and flexible and can move into schools that require extra support, not only to work directly with kids but to support teacher professional development and work directly with teachers."

Disconnecting from work

Trustees approved a new policy developed to help support employee wellness and be compliant with the new *Ontario Working for Workers Act, 2021* which requires employers with more than 25 employees to have a written workplace policy with respect to disconnecting from work. The right

to disconnect from work is defined to mean not engaging in work-related communications including emails or phone calls, or sending or reviewing any messages after usual scheduled working hours. The legislation requires the policy to apply to both employees and management.

"The policy, in partnership with the procedure, will hopefully help to encourage all employees to have a healthy life and work balance," said Traci Hubbert, superintendent of human resources services.

Trustee Judy Saunders and members of the human resource services department

wrote the policy in March, which was reviewed by union and federation representatives, elementary and secondary administrators' and members of the human resources services team.

Next board meeting

The next meeting of the board takes place on May 24 at the Lindsay Education Centre at 6:30 p.m., and is also broadcast live and available for later viewings at tldsbc.ca/board-meetings/.

TLDSB addresses period poverty

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Students say that menstrual equity is long overdue in Trillium Lakelands District School Board schools.

The TLDSB G7 Student Senate raised the idea to the Board of Trustees to provide students with free menstrual products in an effort to promote accessibility and reduce the stigma surrounding menstruation.

"Data indicated that menstruators face challenges when it comes to affording, accessing, and talking about menstrual hygiene products. It's a reality that students leave school early or miss an entire school day for reasons related to menstruation," said a TLDSB press release.

As a result of this study, menstrual products and dispensers have been installed in many TLDSB schools in both women's and all-gender washrooms.

At Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, the need for this campaign can be evidently seen by both students and teachers.

HHSS G7 student representative Cassidy McMullen-Szpik said, "Many people, in our school and even our communities, don't understand the difficulty in not being able to afford, access, or even talk about menstrual

hygiene products."

Christine Carr, teacher at HHSS, said that the campaign is sorely needed, because although the school has some products available at present, many students don't want to rely on what is there.

"It also helps remove the stigma around feminine products when they are discussed openly and students can participate in the initiative," Carr said.

In an effort to raise menstrual awareness within school communities, the G7 Student Senate has also created the Menstrual Equity Challenge as part of the campaign.

"We are collecting any unopened menstrual hygiene products such as tampons, pads, and Diva Cups. The products will be donated to a local organization in order to support our own community, as this is not only a student issue but a global one," Cassidy said.

The challenge is a competition between TLDSB schools to see who can collect the most products. The campaign began at HHSS on May 9 and will continue until May 23.

Cassidy said, "The student body [at HHSS] has taken this campaign very well. There is excitement within the school. We are a very competitive school, and many students have the drive to win the challenge."

Knitting for Warmth blanketing community with care

The Knitting for Warmth group met together at the Highland Hills United Church on May 10 for the first time in two years. "Some are sewers, some knitters, some crochet," said Mary Trepanier. Back row, from left: Ruth Ann Bryant, Mary Trepanier, Barb Todd, Dorothy Archer, Susan Archer. Front row from left, Pat Thornett, Marilyn Burrows, Joan Chapple, Meg Leonard, Carolyn Christian. /Photo by Deanna Wruth



by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

In the past 20 years, a small group of caring women have created over 88,741 squares that make up 2,702 blankets. Those blankets have then been distributed to those seeking comfort or needing a pick-me-up, including people supported by Children’s Aid, SIRCH, local food banks and long-term care homes, A Place Called Home, the Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre, Point in Time, Haliburton hospital, and others including Ronald McDonald House where some from there have been shipped worldwide.

And while the pandemic has prevented the group from being in each other’s company while they crocheted and knitted the squares together, it did not – could not – stop the group from creating the squares, or the blankets.

“It has been wonderful to learn that the actual knitting has been an important pastime for senior citizens wishing to feel helpful, patients in hospital, children learning to knit, summer cottagers, and people with a lifetime supply of wool ends (striped squares can be great looking too),” said group member Mary Trepanier. “Perfect knitting is not necessary (which is why we call it Knitting for Warmth, although some turn out beautiful).”

Trepanier said the group makes “something from nothing.” Some people, she said, are couch surfing with their blanket. One little girl from Australia at Ronald McDonald House for an eye operation made sure she could take it home, loving her blanket for its bright colours that were easier for her to see.

“Also, I found out that the meeting together, and blankets themselves are not as important as the knitting,” said Trepanier. “It is relaxing and something people do to feel good about helping. Some knitters have dementia, but remember how to knit.”

The blankets are always needed. The squares are portable being eight inches by eight inches (a suggested size is 4.5 mm, 32 stitches for worsted weight), and Trepanier said the group is happy to accept them, or yarn donations, even if someone prefers to work solo at home or elsewhere.

“Because of you, someone could be warm tonight,” she said.

If you are knitting or crocheting eight-inch squares, or have yarn to donate to the Knitting for Warmth group, please drop either off on Tuesdays from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of Highland Hills United Church in Minden. For more information, please call Mary Trepanier at 705-286-5173.

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Former Carnarvon resident wins Juno for jazz album

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

Max Senitt almost missed the opportunity to play with Avataar when the invitation asking if he wanted to join the group went to his junk mail.

"Three weeks after they sent the email, I got a phone call," he laughed, recalling how, just prior to the pandemic, he became the drummer for the group he describes as being Indo jazz fusion. "I'd played with everybody at some point but not in that configuration with the music."

On Saturday, Avataar won the Jazz Album of the Year – Group Juno award for their album, *Worldview*, which Senitt performed on.

"We were nominated, and we were there, and obviously it crossed my mind the possibility of the album winning," said Senitt. "When they announced the category, they said, 'and the winner is,' and I said to my friend beside me, 'Avataar!' But I was joking. And then they said it, right after I said it and we were like, 'oh my gosh!'"

The album, Senitt said, was inspired by world events including the presidency in the United States, and people having different worldviews depending on where they live and what they're facing both locally and globally.

The music itself was technically challenging to play, he said, but more challenging was that the group planned to rehearse, play some shows and record when, "the entire planet shut down." They practiced independently, met on Zoom, and were then able to get into the studio in July 2020.

Senitt received a mock-up of the Juno award – it's heavy, he reports – on stage, with Sundar Viswanathan of the group speaking to the value of music in getting him through difficult times being bullied as a child after immigrating from India to Sudbury.

"Music helped him to deal with that, which



Max Senitt, right, celebrates with some of the fellow members of Toronto-based Indo jazz fusion ensemble Avataar after their Juno win for Jazz Album of the Year – Group for their album *Worldview* this past weekend. Senitt, who grew up in Carnarvon, plays drums with the group. /Photo submitted

is quite beautiful," said Senitt.

Senitt himself grew up with his family, including his mom, artist Cathy Senitt, in Carnarvon. He attended Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, learning through Tom Regina, who later welcomed Senitt back to teach a workshop and perform with his band at the time, Max Senitt Y Sus Amigos – Regina was invited to sit in with them.

"People have asked me, when you grew up, what made you want to be a musician, and to be honest, I never really thought about it," he

said. "I don't remember having dreams like, 'I want to be a musician, that's what I'm going to do.' The thing was, I never imagined doing anything else. ... I just remembered last night, I do recall watching the Junos or Grammys when I was a kid and in the back

of my mind thinking, how cool that would be some day to go on the stage and win. It was pretty freaking cool actually, to have that happen."

Touring has taken Senitt around the world – including to Minden, in Germany. Now, his home base is Bloor and Ossington area in Toronto, just five minutes from Long & McQuade (music store), he notes but he's still playing around the city with a wide variety of artists – sometimes two or three different shows in the same day with different artists.

"I play in a lot of projects and it's so rewarding, and it's challenging," he said. "My musical interests are so wide, and just being able to play with so many projects, and music from all over the world, literally, is so exciting. It's life-enriching. It's really good."

Senitt had been at the Junos before, performing with his friend and colleague Alex Cuba, but this was his first time being nominated, and he was able to attend to also cheer on musicians he's worked with nominated in other categories. He brought his son and his son's friend to the awards show on Sunday night.

"It's really exciting, and to be honest, it's really inspiring to win," he said. "I'm always driven, but especially with the pandemic and we didn't have anything going at all, I tried to keep myself busy and do these little projects, but to win is motivating. I'm going to practice more today and just get back at it and learn more. It's really motivating, it feels good."

For more information about Senitt and his work, visit <https://www.maxsenitt.com/> or <https://www.facebook.com/avataarmusic/>.



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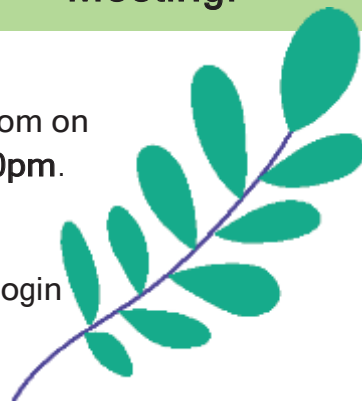


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HHSS students planning return of prom

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

The students of Hal High are looking for help from the community with making this year’s prom the best it can be.

After more than two years of health measures resulting in cancelled events, the high school’s prom committee is excited with plans to have the milestone event on May 28 at Sir Sam’s Ski and Ride in Eagle Lake.

Prom committee member Crystal Petry said, “It felt amazing to learn that we were able to have prom this year! There hasn’t been a prom for the past two years because of COVID, so the last two years of students have missed out on this amazing experience. With us being able to have a prom and graduation this year, it feels like life is getting back to normal.”

Justin Collins, who along with Kathryn Darling is an HHSS staff sponsor of this year’s prom committee wrote in an email message, prom is a “rite of passage for graduating students.”

“It’s one last night to celebrate four years of high school together before students go their separate ways. I think this year is more important though given what students have had to go through the last two years. Having to cancel prom in 2020 and 2021 was sad for those graduating classes, so the class of 2022 really felt strongly that if a prom could happen, it needed to,” he wrote. “We set out in the fall under the assumption that we would have a prom, but without any certainty that it would actually happen. We wanted to be ready in case we would be able to do so, and as restrictions were lifted, more and more op-

portunities became available for us in terms of the kind of event we could plan. In the new year things became much more clear as to not only that this would happen, but what it would look like.”

With the GoFundMe (www.gofundme.com/f/haliburton-highlands-secondary-school-prom) launched, they are looking to the public for help, which will enable as many people to attend as possible, and add additional niceties for everyone to enjoy.

Petry, who is on the committee with fellow Grade 12 student, Emma Thompson, wrote, “It means so much to us to be able to have the opportunity to plan prom with the rest of the committee. It was our main goal to fundraise enough money so we could make ticket prices lower for people who may not be able to afford it. It also allowed us to be able to have a photographer, photo booth and a DJ. We’ve been going around to local businesses to get raffle prizes, and we want to be able to have enough so that every graduating student gets a prize! If anyone from the public would like to donate a prize (gift cards, water bottles, accessory items, etc), anything is appreciated.”

As of Monday (May 16), the effort has resulted in \$1,670 being raised towards the \$5,000 goal.

From the GoFundMe page, as stated by Petry and Thompson: “As our high school lives come to a close, we can’t help but listen to all of the stories, reminisce about all of the memories that we have made, and become closer with all of our amazing teachers and fellow classmates. Prom night is a night to remember, and hopefully, we will be lucky enough to experience this once-in-a-lifetime feeling. Our prom is our way to have one last celebration with our friends and classmates

of many years. We are extremely grateful for this opportunity as the last two years of graduates didn’t get this chance.”



Hal High’s Got Talent

Myles Sharp plays the theme song to *Spongebob Squarepants* at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion at Hal High’s Got Talent: The Welcome Back Tour on Wednesday, May 11. The event featured a talent show with performances by HHSS student musicians and the drama class and an open house to tour the school, visit displays of student work, and converse with community partners. The event was held to welcome the public back into the school after two years of restricted access as a result of COVID-19 health measures. HHSS is hosting a performance of *Beauty and the Beast* from June 13 to June 16. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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Coalition supports efforts to legislate watercraft noise

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

When you're trying to enjoy the solitude of a Saturday morning at the cottage by the lake it's impossible to do that with the intrusive drone emitted by a high-powered motorboat, which can be heard long before seen.

It's a national problem and is at the heart of the Decibel Coalition's efforts to change federal boating regulations to muffle engines on watercraft.

From a prepared statement from the Coalition, they said, "Current boating regulations allow excessively loud boats with ineffective or no mufflers on regional waterways. This is a major and growing problem, adversely affecting wildlife and human enjoyment of these areas. Waterways are regulated by the federal government, and a group of over 65 associations and municipalities called the Decibel Coalition is asking Transport Canada to put decibel limits on motorboats."

There is representation supporting the Coalition from B.C. to Quebec.

Decibel Coalition project lead and advocacy committee Rob Bosomworth said it comes down to a few outliers that don't really care about others.

"There's a huge amount of inconsideration. I don't really have an issue with people wanting to have fast boats, but noise is like light and smoke from cigarettes. It has no boundaries. These boats can be heard sometimes four or five kilometres away on a still morning. I'm on Lake Rosseau and I can hear them on Lake Joseph. That's five or six kilometres away," he said. "Can't see them and the noise is still there. Highly disruptive."

Bosomworth has been coming to Muskoka all of his life, while his family has been cottaging there since 1884. He says there needs to be legislation and quantifiable limits on what is acceptable.

Per a Coalition prepared statement, "Current regulations require small vessels to have mufflers or have through-the-propeller exhaust. However, the regulations do not include decibel limits on noise emissions. Enforcement officials lack the technical expertise needed to identify whether a muffler is properly equipped according to current standards. As a result, there is little-to-no enforcement of the regulations anywhere in Canada, allowing the problem to grow unchecked."

The Coalition of Haliburton Property Owners Associations' chair Paul MacInnes said his organization has given its support to the Decibel Coalition because excessive noise on lakes is a reality here in the Highlands.

One of the major contributors to the excessive noise on Beech Lake where he resides, and other lakes in the Highlands, he said, is how some motorboats have a dual exhaust, which is above the water.

"You've seen it on cars. It almost seems like they're designed to make as much noise as possible. And for people who want peace and quiet and want to sit and listen to the loons or even just have lunch outside with friends and family the noise levels are intrusive," he said.

He likens it to a "a very noisy motorcycle," but with the water the sound carries a greater distance.

This isn't all boaters, he said.

"It's the minority of people with boats that cause the problem. And the Decibel Coalition folks approached us and asked us to support the national campaign. It's not one of our core issues, obviously, but we decided as a board that we would support them and because they're trying to put a national coalition together," he said.

His message to the noisy operators is to be mindful.

"You know, be kind. Be considerate of others," he said.

From the Safe Quiet Lakes Group, the Decibel Coalition was formed and has been working for two-and-a-half years on getting noise enforcement legislation. Bosomworth said they suspect it will take upwards of two years before the changes the Coalition has been looking for become legislated.

They have a three-pronged approach: one, work with the Ministry of Transport Canada, two, asking the public to have people provide input/make submissions, third, meet with politicians and the media to raise awareness of the effort.

Bosomworth cites a 2021 survey conducted by Quiet Lakes, which included close to 6,000 respondents, including people from Haliburton County.

"There's a very strong correlation between people's happiness on the lake and noise. Our survey said 67 per cent wanted two things with noise. It was enforcement and set a decibel limit for engine noise," he said.

Enforcing muffler laws and decibel laws has already been in practice in places in Europe and the U.S. for 20 years, he

added.

"It's not just to manufacturers and operators, but they apply to anybody who services, installs, sells. The whole market stream [is legislated]," he said, referring to Europe.

Regulations also apply to manufacturing and maintenance work, he said.

Bosomworth said in the U.S. they raised concerns about noise in the 1980s. Now the rules are set by each state, but in Canada any legislation with the water has to be national.

"So, unless you can form a national organization, it's really hard to convince Transport Canada to make a national change for a regional problem. So, that's why we created the Decibel Coalition," he said.

From a prepared statement, the Coalition also adds, "Local wildlife is also affected as high noise-emitting motorboats disturb and scare small mammals and waterfowl. Research funded by the National Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada shows that Canadian freshwater biodiversity is declining at an unprecedented rate, and research suggests the importance of noise pollution mitigation on preserving biodiversity and aquatic life."

Bosomworth is hopeful change is on the way, but he acknowledges anything with the government will take time.

Per the Coalition, "Transport Canada has launched public consultations (letstalktransportation.ca/svne) in recognition of this problem, which was open until May 13. Of the five options presented, the Coalition believes that only option five will effectively address the issue. The Coalition is encouraging Canadians to send a letter to their elected officials via their website (safequiet.ca/our-initiatives/decibel-coalition/email-your-member-of-parliament-today/) indicating their support of introducing decibel limits in regulations."

Bosomworth said Transport Canada told them that a coalition and political pressure is needed to affect change.

"So that's why we're making the politicians aware. It's the democratic process. In a good democracy the bureaucrats will not do the work, will not make changes unless they're completely convinced that there is a change [needed]," he said.

He continues, "They're very cautious people. So, we're trying to remove any need for them to be more cautious than necessary. But I'm convinced we will get it."

See the website safequiet.ca for more information about the Decibel Coalition and its efforts, including what you can do to contribute to a quieter lake, which can be a simple modification to your watercraft.



Preserving heritage apples

A free information session on "Canada's favourite fruit," saw more than a dozen people in attendance at the Minden library on May 14 to learn more about the history of apples and their reproduction, differentiating between a heritage cultivar and feral tree and preserving heritage apple trees.

The Haliburton County Master Gardeners and University of Guelph have partnered to inventory and identify heritage apple varieties in the area. Residents can provide samples for DNA testing at a cost of \$25 per tree, and information will be collected and mapped for a local resource.

If you missed this session, an information table will be in place at the Master Gardeners Plant Sale on May 28 at Head Lake Rotary Park in Haliburton. For more information contact the Master Gardeners at appleproject@haliburtonmastergardener.ca or visit haliburtonmastergardener.ca.



Sunny days

Prior to a brief thunderstorm on May 14, boats, floats, canoes and kayaks were enjoying downtown Minden with a view from the Gull River. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Joy in fulfilling a dream in Pain Court

Mission accomplished for Red Hawks doubles' team with a strong work ethic to earn OFSAA berth

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

Ava Smith was beaming with pride about fulfilling a vow to earn an all-provincials berth recently, which was made several years ago as a student at Archie Stouffer Elementary School.

Smith, a senior girls' Red Hawks' doubles badminton player, recently competed at the Ontario Federation Sports Athletic Associations (OFSAA) championships with doubles' teammate Emma Tidey.

Held from May 5 to 7 at St. Clair College in Pain Court with 50 matches a day, the all-provincial championship provided the backdrop to a dream come true, and reminded the pair about recounting what they said in Grade 6.

"We really like this and we're pretty good at it and, so, we were like, okay, imagine going to OFSAA in high school?"

The doubles' team peaked for the tournament, Smith said. This resulted in a 3-3 record, good enough for 18th out of 40 teams.

"That's the best we've ever played. We definitely rose to the challenge and we played I think the best we've ever played," she said.

The two players don't just play badminton. Both play for the Peterborough Ice Kats' AA girls' hockey team and are currently playing soccer for the Red Hawks senior team this spring. They believe their varied interests may put them at a disadvantage in terms of badminton playing time and skill development compared to their opponents, who they assume don't play as many sports in the year, but it enables them to be well-rounded athletes. The Hawks' pair believe it heightened their excitement when the high school badminton season started than if they played badminton year-round. They also added their agility, footwork, reaction time and upper body strength is benefitted by playing other sports such as volleyball, soccer and hockey.

Tidey said there was a certain level of pride to not just play, but compete well against their opponents, who were clearly players with club experience.

Smith remembers one match on the first day when they surprised a team by going up 10-0 to start.

Although the Hawks' tandem eventually lost, it put their opponents on notice and they forced a third and deciding game for the match.

"They totally underestimated us when we showed up ... at first they were like laughing and giggling and then started to realize that we were just smoking them at



The Red Hawks senior girls' doubles team of Emma Tidey, from left, and Ava Smith took their momentum from finishing second at COSSA to their first OFSAA berth, which was held from May 5 to 7 in Pain Court. The team finished with three wins and three losses to finish 18 out of a field of 40 teams. With both athletes in Grade 12, this achievement ends their high school badminton career on a high note. /DARREN LUM Staff

that point. They're like, okay, we got to actually go [and play]," she said.

The tournament was organized with the opening day of matches determining the team's field of competition (a flight – no losses, b flight – one loss and c flight – two losses) while the second day included the elimination round when teams who lost two matches would be eliminated from play, and then the third was for championship matches. The Hawks finished 2-1 and advanced from the first day to the b flight when they won one match and lost two. They finished 3-3 overall at the tournament.

At first, Tidey and Smith didn't feel entirely comfortable at the all-provincial tournament with how the other teams exhibited the common traits associated to not just playing for their high school, but were clearly part of a badminton club.

Many of the doubles' teams they saw were dressed in matching track suits, with badminton specific shoes on their feet, and four rackets each, compared to just the one

racket for each of the girls from here.

Smith added their opponents' depth of skills was on showcase, but it didn't deter their determination to overcome what seemed at the time overwhelming odds.

"They all have these fancy smashes where they jump and smash the bird right at you and there's no chance of getting it. We kept up. It was good," Smith said.

Tidey adds the pair relaxed as the tournament wore on despite feeling frustrated to start.

"As the tournament went on more and more we learned to have more fun," she said.

Tidey remembers on the first day they were getting frustrated with each other. This ended when they remembered to have fun.

"We just started to support each other more," she said.

The team loved their coach's even-keeled approach to coaching them this season, his supportive and encouraging words he offered, including how he reminded them at OFSAA to remember to have fun.

Smith said their coach told them, "You guys made it here and you're doing awesome. Have fun."

Back in Grade 9 the team finished on the podium, but with no all-provincials to go to (as a rule) the team anticipated Grade 10 to be their year to fulfill a dream.

"We were just proud we made it that far," Tidey said. "And then we kind of thought about it, 'oh, well, when we're in Grade 12 [or Grade 11] we'll do badminton again and see how far we get,'" Tidey said.

The pandemic hit and that wish was left unfulfilled. Grade 11 came and the pandemic continued, so with health measures lifting this year, the team was able to make their last year of eligibility count.

For Tidey, this year and the opportunity to play for a berth to the all-provincials was welcomed.

The lesson the tandem took from the all-provincial experience was how their efforts during the pre-season and season, which were built upon passion for the sport and a belief in themselves, established them as a team that belonged with the best in the province.

"We're hard workers. We can compete. We can keep up. Even though we don't have club experience, which everyone at OFSAA plays club ... we can keep up," Smith said.

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Red Hawks track athlete Brooklyn Sidsworth makes an attempt in shotput at the East Northumberland Secondary School Invitational Track Meet last month.



Faster, Higher, Stronger

Red Hawks runners Brooke Stover and Erika Hoare race at the East Northumberland Secondary School Invitational Track Meet last month. This event provided warmup for the Kawartha championships, which were held last week. /Photos submitted by Karen Gervais



Red Hawks track athlete Jackson Wilson spots the landing during the East Northumberland Secondary School Invitational Track Meet last month.



Red Hawks sprinter Denver Blakey competes in the 100 metre dash at the Durham Classic Invitational held from April 27 to 28 at the Oshawa Civic Recreation Complex. Blakey finished with a time of 14.66.

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HISTORY IN THE HIGHLANDS

125 Years Ago in Minden

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We don't have a newspaper archive of the newspaper of that era time, the *Minden Echo*, but local newsletters submitted to the Lindsay newspapers can give us a glimpse of the pace of life of our ancestors.

In those columns, we can read about the most newsworthy events in town each week, and about the tidbits of comings and goings, illnesses, births, marriages and deaths.

A weekly submission to *The Watchman* in Lindsay was titled "Gelert and the North." Gelert in those days was an important hub. It was the closest train station to Minden, making it the primary location for the distribution of goods, people, and news in the area.



ADELE ESPINA

History in the Highlands

Here are the columns by an unknown local writer for the month of May 1897. No column was submitted for the second week in May, so a bit of news was found in a competing newspaper, *The Canadian Post*, for that week.

The Watchman, Lindsay – May 6, 1897

"Gelert and the North

Special to the Watchman.

TEACHER'S CONVENTION – Haliburton County Teacher's Institute will be held in the public school, Minden, June 3, and 4, 1897. **Dr. Clarke** of Trinity University, Toronto, will deliver a lecture, Kingsley's 'Water Babies' in the town hall on Thursday evening, June 3, commencing 8 o'clock. Wm. Houston, M.A., will be in attendance during the entire session and take up 'The English Sentence' and also 'The Teaching of English Literature,' illustrating his method by means of Tennyson's 'Tears, Idle Tears' and Moore's 'Last Rose of Summer.' **Mr. Henry Reazin**, I.P.S. (Inspector of Public Schools) West Victoria, is also expected to be present and assist in the program. Several teachers will read papers, and it is hoped that all will take part in the proceedings. By the new regulations every public school teacher is required to attend continuously all the sessions of the institution. For fuller particulars see programmes.

GOLDEN HERB REMEDY CO.—This medicine company struck town Monday night. The entertainment part of their show was very good in its line. Gelert could have dispensed with the first number, which, however, we may say in justice to the manager was not on the programme. This was what the



Gelert-Minden Stage

boys call a 'scrap' which began between two male members of the company in the freight shed, shortly after the train arrived. Some severe bruises were received before the combatants were noticed by the agent, when the 'scrap' was promptly stopped. Quite a large audience attended the entertainment in the evening and seemed to enjoy it immensely. After spending three nights in Gelert the company go to Minden for a week.

PERSONAL – The family of **Mr. J.H. Delamere** of Minden moved to Toronto on Monday last. They take up their residence in Parkdale. We understand Mr. Delamere will remain for a short time until he disposes of his newspaper plant. They will be missed both for their active work in Sunday school and church, and for the readiness with which Mr. Delamere always joined in any plan for the advancement of the village in which he lived ... **Rev. A.S. Grant** accompanied by Mrs. Grant and their two children returned to Toronto on Monday after a few weeks visit in Minden. Mr. Grant has received a call from Rossland, B.C., and will probably leave for the west in a few weeks ... **Mr. Sandy Beatty** left for Winnipeg on Tuesday.

The Canadian Post, Lindsay – May 14, 1897

"**Mr. Edward Noice**, of Minden, who left on a trip to the gold fields of British Columbia about six weeks ago, has returned. Mr. Noice states that most of the so-called mines are yet undeveloped and may or may not prove profitable, but should 10 per cent of the claims turn out well, Rossland and surrounding camps must become important places."

The Watchman, Lindsay – May 20, 1897

"Gelert and the North

Special to the Watchman.

THE CHEESE FACTORIES – The Minden and Ingoldsby cheese factories begin operations this week. Steps have been taken to have milk drawn from Gelert to the Ingoldsby factory, and we think the farmers might do well to give it a trial anyway. The distance is considerable, but not greater than routes to

Minden and Haliburton factories. The factory should have been here in the first place, but since it is not, we think it might be well for the farmers to give the cheese industry a trial and if there is more money in it than butter making a factory can be established later.

SEEDING – The farmers are almost through with spring work. The weather so far has been cool and wet, and although vegetation has not been rapid, still the grain has secured a good root and the prospects for a fair crop are bright. The quantity of grain put in this spring is we think rather in excess of former years. Possibly if our farmers took more interest in cheese making, the poultry yard, and more care in the endeavour to improve their farm stock, times would be bound to look up.

MARRIED – In the Methodist church Minden, on the 17th inst., by **Rev. J.R. Peake, Hannah**, second daughter of **Mr. T. Milburn**, Gelert, to **Mr. Albert Madill** of Monmouth. We wish the young couple success in life.

DIPHTHERIA – This disease has broken out again, this time in the family of **Mr. David Whistle**, who lives west of Minden three miles. We hope they may soon be rid of the unwelcome visitor.

PERSONAL – **Rev. J.W. Bunner** of Haliburton, **Rev. J.R. Peake** of Minden and **Rev. F. Stillman** of Stanhope attended District meeting in Lindsay last week ... **Mr. Aubrey Puffer**, who has been seriously ill during the past few weeks is much improved, and we hope soon to see him around again ... **Mr. Wm. Herron** is suffering from a severe attack of neuralgia in his face. He consulted **Dr. Curry** on Saturday, and we hope soon to hear of an improvement in condition ... **Mr. Shea** of Gooderham was a visitor in Gelert last week ... **Mr. R. Sylvester**, photographer from Fenelon Falls, arrived at Gelert Tuesday evening. He will remain a few days practising his art.

SHIPMENT OF LIVE STOCK – The first shipment for the season was made last

Wednesday morning from this station. **Mr. Robert Hamilton** of Omaha, Nebraska, is the buyer, and the shipment consisted of three car loads which go to the state of Iowa."

The Watchman, Lindsay – May 27, 1897

"Gelert and the North

Special to the Watchman.

THE 24TH – The Queen's birthday passed away very quietly in Gelert. Several went away to a picnic at the Narrows and spent a pleasant afternoon ... In Minden quite a number of citizens spent the day picnicking at Gull Lake, and some were successful in securing some fine trout. Our lakes, besides being very picturesque, abound in trout, bass and other fine species of the finny tribe.

PERSONAL – **Messrs. Alex. Hamilton** and **Harry McNeil** of Lindsay spent the 24th trout fishing in Halls Lake. We were glad to see the boys and to know they had a successful catch, but it was provoking that the train passed through Gelert before they reached the station. We would judge the train might be somewhere between Kinmount and Fenelon Falls when the young men reached here ... **Mr. F.C. Fielding** of Toronto spent Sunday and Monday with his parents in Minden."

What became of our local folks mentioned in these columns?

John Henry Delamere's move to Toronto was short-lived. He is enumerated on the 1901 census in Minden, still working as a publisher. He died here in 1916.

Alexander (Sandy) Beatty never made it to Winnipeg. The next summer he was married in Dryden, Ontario to Martha McPhail of Stanhope, the widow of Charles McPhail and mother of two small boys. Together they moved west to Penticton, British Columbia where they raised five more children.

Edward Noice and his wife Mary Jane Welch and family left Minden and moved to Toronto.

Albert Madill and Hannah Milburn lived until their 80s in the Gooderham area and raised a family of 10 children.

David Whistle, his wife and four daughters all survived the diphtheria outbreak, although his only son, a one year old, had died of bronchitis and influenza the previous spring.

Aubrey Puffer, his parents and siblings moved west to Manitoba a few years later. Aubrey married in Manitoba, then he and his family moved to the Last Mountain area of Saskatchewan where other families from the Haliburton area had settled. He died in 1918.

William Herron lived another 10 years, dying in 1907 at the age of 70 from heart disease.

Frederick Colman Fielding became a drug-gist, married, lived in Coboconk, then in Toronto, and eventually returned to Coboconk where he was still working at his profession at the age of 80.

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GENERATIONS

Geology week

With the help of Yours Outdoors we had the opportunity for a mineral filled week! First, a mineral tour at Greenmantle Mineral Farm! Mark and Heather toured us around the property teaching us what the flora, fauna and land formations were telling us about what was under our feet. They are the keepers of these minerals, so that everyone can enjoy them for years to come. We ended our day with some maple syrup sampling. Later in the week we went to an actual mineral collecting site with John and Mitch as our guides. We found fluorite, apatite, calcite, titanite, feldspar, and actinolite to fill our pockets with!

Submitted by the Humphries kids

Members of the homeschooling community celebrated Geology week with a visit to Greenmantle Farm, and a mineral collecting site./Photo by Joleen Thomas



Writing

Words,
Words are everywhere
Coming to me,
And disappearing,
Swirling,
Enticing me to write,
Poems flow from my pen.

By Sadie Kelly

In order to use water in our homes it has to go through many levels of filtration and treatment. In this experiment, Lincoln, Rylie and Quinn Aleksander learned how the first level of filtration works – with simple supplies of cloth, cotton, sand and rocks we were able to filter creek water. /Photo by Katina Aleksander



First Spring Blossoms

/Photo by Kip Kelly



At book club, the older kids discussed their book and worked on the activity together outside in the sun. Clockwise from left: Violet Humphries, Kip Kelly, Sadie Kelly, Tristan Humphries and Winston Ramsdale. /Photo by Jennifer Ramsdale

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AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



Horsing around

Gelert resident Isla Dobbins and her horse, MYS Candy Kiss, at their recent debut barrel race in Ancaster, Ontario. /Photo by Emily Gethke Photography.



Cones and clucks

A little girl's dream: an ice cream cone and a flock of chickens to make her day. Madisyn Fisher had a sweet treat while enjoying the company of a herd of birds at Grandma Cathy and Grandpa Orville Fisher's Minden home last week. /Photo by Cathy Fisher

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	8						5	3
2	6		8	5				
					6			1
							7	2
	7		1		4			
5								
6							3	
		2	9	8				
4				1	2			

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 19

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



By the river

A summer-like morning greeted Minden resident Chantel Smith and her kids Nixon and Grayson, who explored the Gull River and Rotary Park in Minden on May 12. "What a beautiful day to be off with my boys," she said. /Photo by Chantel Smith

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AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



Come rain, come shine

While much of last Saturday [May 14] was filled with sun and summer-like heat, the skies opened in the afternoon, as evidenced by this photo taken in Donald looking toward Minden. /Photo by Pam Casey



Working like a dog

No bones about it, Tara Ryalen's assistant, Malachite is ready for his desk job at Re/Max Professionals North in Minden. /Photo by Terry Carr

SUDOKU SOLUTION

1	8	7	2	4	9	6	5	3
2	6	3	8	5	1	7	4	9
9	4	5	7	3	6	8	2	1
3	1	4	5	6	8	9	7	2
8	7	9	1	2	4	3	6	5
5	2	6	3	9	7	1	8	4
6	9	1	4	7	5	2	3	8
7	5	2	9	8	3	4	1	6
4	3	8	6	1	2	5	9	7



Happy as kids in mud

Mykola, Oskar and Sophia Danilko embrace warm weather and the latest in skincare trends: mud from the front yard of their Minden home. /Photos submitted by Maryssa Danilko

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to sue@haliburtonpress.com

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COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
APPLICATION FOR MINOR VARIANCE
THIS MEETING WILL BE HEARD AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING BY WAY OF A
VIRTUAL MEETING

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

DATE: Monday, May 30, 2022
TIME: 10:30 AM
LOCATION: Due to the physical distancing requirements imposed as a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be held as an electronic hearing by way of a virtual meeting.

To participate:
Join the meeting by telephone by dialing either: 1-647-374-4685 OR 1-647-558-0588
Enter Meeting ID: 818 0045 4531 and Passcode: 903603

Join the meeting using a computer or smart phone at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81800454531?pwd=cDBSZzU2cUhHbWJ2alp0U0w5ZlhzZz09>

Members of the public are welcome to watch the Committee of Adjustment meeting by joining YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/URpzQ86NtK0>

Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the Public Hearing must pre-register by emailing dsisson@mindenhills.ca by **Friday May 27th before 4:00 PM or by attending and registering the morning of the meeting before 10:00 AM. Participants registering after 10:00 AM will not be permitted into the public hearing.**

Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the hearing as permitted by the Chair. Please note the live-stream link provided for each hearing will only be activated while Committee of Adjustment is in session.

The purpose of the Public Hearing will be to consider minor variance applications **PLMV2022026, PLMV2022029, PLMV2022034, PLMV2022035 and PLMV2022036** and the proposed Minor Variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act. The minor variance applications for Public Hearing are listed below:

PLMV2022026 – Part Lot 14, Concession 14, Geographic Township of Snowdon; municipally known as 1015 Hamlin Lane; and located on Canning Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new detached garage having a ground floor area of 52 square metres (560 square feet) increasing the lot coverage for accessory buildings to 7.3% whereas otherwise a maximum 5% lot coverage for accessory buildings is permitted.



PLMV2022029 – Part Lot 6, Concession 11, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1615 Denna Lake Road; and located on Denna Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the redevelopment of the property consisting of an addition / reconfiguration of the existing dwelling and decks, specifically including a 8.7 square metre (93.4 square foot) screened room addition; 56 square metre (603.1 square foot) ground floor addition; 152.7 square metre (1,644 square foot) basement addition; 7.5 square metre (80.3 square foot) rear covered porch addition; and resultant 98.1 square metres (1,056 square feet) in attached waterfront decks. Setbacks from the high water mark would be 20.6 metres (67.7 feet) to the deck and 23 metres (75.5 feet) to the dwelling. Overall height of the dwelling would be 6.2 metres (20.3 feet).



PLMV2022034 – Part Lot 12, Concession 13, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1035 Sage Drive; and located on Little Boshkung Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new screened porch and new mudroom, each having a ground floor area of 11.4 square metres (122.5 square feet) together with a 11.9 square metre (128 square foot) covered porch, to the existing non-complying dwelling, being 8.1 metres (26.6 feet) from the High Water Mark (HWM) whereas a new screened porch would not otherwise be permitted within the required 23 metre (75.5 feet) setback and no increase in size is otherwise permitted for a dwelling situated within 15 metres (49.25 feet) of the HWM.



PLMV2022035 – Part Lot 13, Concession 8, Geographic Township of Minden; municipally known as 1280 Reynolds Road; and located on Horseshoe Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a 71.4 square metre (768 square foot) detached garage being 5.5 metres (18 feet) in height, with an attached covered porch and a 38 square metre (405 square foot) upper sleeping cabin, being located within 40 metres (130 feet) of the high water mark.



PLMV2022036 – Part Lots 14 and 15, Concession 11, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 1643 Rackety Trail Road; and located on Gull Lake (see Key Map).

Purpose and Effect of the Application: To permit the construction of a new addition having a ground floor area of 37 square metres (400 square feet) to the existing non-complying dwelling, being an increase of 54% and located 14.6 metres (48 feet) from the High Water Mark (HWM) whereas no increase in size is otherwise permitted for a dwelling situated within 15 metres (49.25 feet) of the HWM.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION regarding these applications are available online at www.mindenhills.ca/newsroom. Copies of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

HAVE YOUR SAY: Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged. You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. If you do not attend the public meeting, it may proceed in your absence and, except as otherwise provided in The Planning Act, you will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceedings.

WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS: To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail adougherty@mindenhills.ca.

ANY PERSON OR AGENCY WHO IS OF THE OPINION THAT HOLDING THE HEARING AS AN ELECTRONIC HEARING IS LIKELY TO CAUSE THEM SIGNIFICANT PREJUDICE, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as an electronic hearing is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing.

ACCESSIBILITY: The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

PRIVACY DISCLOSURE: As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact adougherty@mindenhills.ca.
Amanda Dougherty
Township Planning Consultant
Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON, K0M 2K0

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230 YARD/GARAGE SALE

MULTI STREET SALE-Minden at Windover Drive, Highland Gate and Kulas Court on **SATURDAY MAY 22nd** from 9:00am - 3:00pm

GARAGE SALE, RAIN OR SHINE, May 21 & 22 (8am to 2pm) at 1031 & 1041 Lodge Lane, Minden (take Deep Bay Rd to Tennyson Rd) Rae Dunn purge, some antiques, household items.

2 FAMILY GARAGE SALE 3983 Deep Bay Rd. This **Sat & Sun** (8 am - 2 pm) Bargains on many household items, tools, hardware and electronics

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Norwood Fairgrounds
Call for tickets **1-800-954-9998** or
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Bill Bekkers 705-448-8814
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www.norwoodcountryjamboree.com

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400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

SEVERAL POSITIONS TO BE FILLED

General Help - Picking up lumber yard work able to work safely. PLUS looking for 2 cabinet makers able to read blueprints and have own tools. Please contact by email kenpridecustom@hotmail.com or call 647 293-7280

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in the Minden/Haliburton area. Must have means of transportation and a valid drivers license. Wages will be based on experience and skill. Please contact us at 705-457-0472 or minden.construction01@gmail.com

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Sharp Electric is currently seeking Electrical Apprentices. We require individuals with strong troubleshooting, communication and organizational skills who can work independently or as part of a crew in Residential and Commercial settings.

The ideal candidate must hold a valid G (or G2) Driver's License. 2 years field related work experience would be preferred but not required.

If you are interested in joining our team, please forward your resume to info@sharpelectric.ca or mail to PO Box 689, Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0



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Top wages, Excellent benefit package, Flexible full time or part time hours available.

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Check us out at www.walkershvac.com

Email your resume today to info@walkershvac.com

We thank all applicants for their interest, however only those candidates selected for interviews will be contacted.



Job Posting

Early Interventionist (Full Time)

We are currently offering a full-time (35 hour/week), 1 year contract with opportunity to lead into a full-time permanent position. Responsibilities include working with families and licensed childcare to enhance the growth and development of infants and young children with developmental disabilities or who are at risk for developmental delay, behavioural concerns, etc. The ideal candidate will have a diploma in Early Childhood Education or bachelor's degree (Association for Early Childhood Education of Ontario) or equivalent experience. Post diploma Resource Teacher or Infant Mental Health is an asset and an interest in the issues currently impacting the children, youth, and parents in our community.

Point in Time is committed to building an organization that reflects the communities we work with. We encourage applications from members of Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, LGBTQ+ communities, people with disabilities, and members of other equity seeking groups.

Point in Time will provide accommodation during the recruitment process to ensure equal access to applicants with disabilities, upon the request of the applicant.

Visit www.pointintime.ca for a detailed job description.

Please send cover letter and resume by **May 30, 2022** by e-mail at HR@pointintime.ca

Point in Time Centre for Children Youth and Parents
P.O. Box 1306, 69 Eastern Avenue,
Haliburton ON K0M 1S0



Job Posting

Family Support (Full Time)

We are currently offering a full-time (35 hour/week) 1 year contract, with opportunity to lead into a full-time permanent position. Under the direction of the Family Support Team Lead, the worker is responsible for assessing and providing services for children, youth, and parents in Haliburton County to address social, emotional, and behavioural needs.

The ideal candidate will be a Registered Social Service Worker or Registered Psychotherapist with a background in Mental Health and an interest in the issues currently impacting the children, youth, and parents in our community.

Point in Time is committed to building an organization that reflects the communities we work with. We encourage applications from members of Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, LGBTQ+ communities, people with disabilities, and members of other equity seeking groups. Point in Time will provide accommodation during the recruitment process to ensure equal access to applicants with disabilities, upon the request of the applicant.

Visit www.pointintime.ca for a detailed job description.

Please send cover letter and resume by **May 27, 2022** by e-mail at HR@pointintime.ca

Point in Time Centre for Children Youth and Parents P.O. Box 1306,
69 Eastern Avenue, Haliburton ON K0M 1S0

Now Hiring!

Minden Times

Classifieds

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classifieds@haliburtonpress.com
Deadline 4 pm Monday

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Due to a retirement, HHHS Foundation has an exciting career opportunity for an experienced Executive Director.

This position has the responsibility to accomplish necessary fundraising activities to support the needs of HHHS hospital and health care facilities in Haliburton County.

The successful candidate will be an effective leader with a passion for relationship and consensus building, and possess strong business and marketing acumen.

A solid financial background, with a related post-secondary education, and good working knowledge of the community is a must for this opportunity.

Interested applicants should express their interest and forward their resume via email in confidence by 4pm Friday, June 10, 2022 to

Eric Recalla, HHHS Foundation Chair
erecalla@hhhs.ca


For further information on the Foundation, please visit www.hhhs.ca/foundation



**Administrative Support
(full time, permanent)**

Join our team and live our mission of encouraging connection, creating resilience and reducing poverty. As the first point of contact to the organization we are looking for an energetic multi-tasker with great admin skills, a welcoming smile, and a passion for helping others.

For more information visit our website – www.sirch.on.ca. To apply send your cover letter and resume to info@sirch.on.ca.



Haliburton Highlands Health Services has a need for Full-Time, Part-Time (Permanent and/or Temporary) and Casual staff for the noted classifications below.

RN's and RPN's are expected to be available for both Minden and Haliburton Hospital locations. In addition, opportunities are available in our two Long Term Care facilities, Hyland Wood and Hyland Crest.

Registered Nurses earns \$34.24 /hr - \$49.02/hr and is responsible for providing comprehensive care to patients, with predictable and unpredictable outcomes who may or may not be clinically stable. The successful candidate will possess a diploma/degree in Nursing and a current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario. Two years of acute care practice is required; previous emergency department or specialty department experience of 1 year or more is preferred. **Temporary housing accommodation will be provided by HHHS.**

Registered Practical Nurses earn \$30.58 - \$31.75/hr and provide client care in accordance with the Professional Standards of the College of Nurses of Ontario. She or he, as a member of the health care team, has a significant role in promoting health, preventing illness, and helping clients attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a client's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. RPN's must have a diploma in Nursing, a Current Certificate of Competence from the College of Nurses of Ontario, current BCLS. Must have a demonstrated knowledge of RPN scope of practice, excellent organization and prioritization skills and an ability to fully communicate in English.

Personnel Support Workers earns \$22.25 - \$24.85/hr and provide resident care in relation to activities of daily living. PSW's help residents attain and maintain the highest level of health possible in situations in which a resident's condition is relatively stable, less complex and the outcomes of care are predictable. Successful completion of Personal Support Worker program which meets one of the following:

The vocational standards established by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, The standards established by the National Association of Career Colleges, or The standards established by the Ontario Community Support Association; and Must be a minimum of 600 hours in duration, counting both class time and practical experience.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND TALENT ACQUISITION SPECIALIST

This permanent full-time position is available for an energetic and self-motivated individual who thrives in a fast-paced environment, designing, perfecting and conducting recruitment processes. Working closely with department hiring leaders, this role posts vacancies, interviews, prepares and extends employment offers and tracks recruitment status. A candidate with out of the box thinking and initiative, who is competent in all aspects of social media will be successful in making HHHS a preferred employer of choice. Supports the Manager of Human Resources as back-up when required, is required to become familiar with our SEIU and ONA collective agreements and produces reports related to them. Produces reports for Quality, and Human Resource reports for our Board and Board sub-committees and Executive. Responds to employee and manager inquiries in a timely manner.

The candidate requires a degree or diploma in Human Resources, with 2-3 years of relevant experience, Healthcare experience would be an asset. Above average skills in MS Office, HRIS programs and employment legislation knowledge is beneficial. Promotes a respectful and kind approach to others.

Interested: Submit your application and resume to:

**Human Resources
Haliburton Highlands Health Services
Box 115, Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0
E-mail: hr@hhhs.ca
Fax: 705-457-4609**

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Applications are being accepted for a full or part time sales clerk position in our Rent-all at our Haliburton store. Responsibilities include customer service, inventory control, delivery of equipment and general housekeeping. Successful candidates should have some knowledge of small engines and good computer skills.

Please submit resumes to Emmerson Lumber Limited, Attention Cleve Roberts, P.O. Box 150, Haliburton, On. K0M 1S0 or e-mail at cleve@emmersonlumber.com.

Minden Times Classifieds

Call 705-286-1288
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Deadline 4 pm Monday

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY



WE'RE HIRING!

Sir Sam's Ski/Ride has multiple positions available for summer employment. Are you friendly, outgoing, and looking for a fun summer job? Do you want to join an energetic team? Then Sir Sam's could be the perfect place for you!

We offer competitive wages and a complimentary cycling pass to all our staff! Experience is preferred but not necessary.

We are currently hiring:

- Mountain bike instructors
- Lift operators
- Bartenders (SmartServe required)
- Servers (SmartServe required)
- Line chefs
- Dishwashers

Resumes for bike instructors and lift operators can be sent to randv@sirsams.com.

Resumes for bartenders, servers, line chefs, and dishwashers can be sent to owen@sirsams.com.



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Thoroughly and efficiently diagnose and repair boats, motors, and trailers coming out of storage or in for service. Use of personal owned tools as well as tools supplied by the marina. Will work with the team to help improve the work environment, support others and provide guidance and support whenever possible to ensure the success of the organization your fellow co-workers.



CAMP KANDALORE Is Hiring The Following Positions!

Maintenance Worker - Full time
Canoe Trippers - Seasonal summer
Outdoor Education Centre Staff - Seasonal spring

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Haliburton County Public Library
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Haliburton County Public Library

Requires

Part-time Library Branch Staff

Successful applicants will have enthusiasm for creating and running library programs, excellent interpersonal and communication skills, and demonstrated proficiency in basic computer software, internet applications, e-books and mobile devices. Educational requirements include a SOLS Certificate in Small Library Management, or a Library Technician Diploma, or a combination of education and related experience.

Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than 12:00pm on May 26, 2022.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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520 THANK YOU



Pearl Kernohan

A Heartfelt Thank You

The family of the late Pearl Kernohan would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the many dear family, friends and neighbours for their wonderful words of support, kind gestures, cards & calls, floral arrangements and the charitable donations to the Highland Hills United Church, Minden and the Haliburton Highland Health Services Foundation. Many thanks to Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home for their caring and professional service during this difficult time. The compassion and love expressed by all touched our hearts deeply.

Mom will be greatly missed and forever in our hearts.

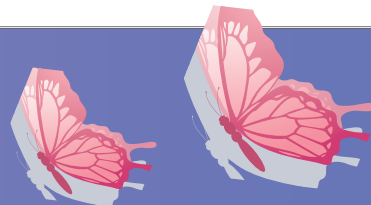
Sincerely Ivan Kernohan and Family

640 IN MEMORIAM



In Loving Memory of
Patricia Marie McInnis
who passed away
May 20, 2020
Dear mother of Jason McInnis
(Elizabeth)
Lovingly remembered by her partner Tom Orr and his family

Forever in our hearts!



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The Times

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Monday, May 17, 1999. Number 1889

SKIPPING CLASS:

Vanessa Davis skips with a single rope while Cindy Malloy and Kaitlyn Hewson turn the double dutch ropes, during the Archie Stouffer Jump Rope for Heart earlier this month. The fund-raiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation allowed students to take a break from classes to skip for two hours. The youngsters had gathered pledges for the charity totalling \$5,900, more than one thousand dollars above last year's effort.



A total ban on all burning continues throughout the Highlands

A spring without the usual amount of rainfall has resulted in twin problems for the Haliburton Highlands.

The dry conditions in area forests have caused area fire departments to impose a total fire ban throughout most of the county.

The same lack of rainfall has left area lakes far below their springtime levels. With little relief in sight and the demands of the Trent Canal system expected to begin this week, they could go even lower.

With the exception of Bicroft and Cardiff townships in the eastern section of Haliburton County, the fire ban remains in place. The ban means that all burning is forbidden, including fires for heat and cooking. The rain which fell a week ago did little to reduce the danger of wild fires.

Dysart Fire Chief Miles Maughan stated that although circumstances improved slightly over the last few

weeks, lifting the ban at this point did not seem to be a wise decision. "The conditions have dried up again. It really doesn't make much sense to drop it and put it on again," said Maughan. He noted that while in attendance at a fire meeting last week, it was reported that most of the chiefs had made the decision to maintain the ban. Most municipalities have the appropriate by-laws in place to enact a fire ban within their jurisdictions.

The fire ban does not address the use of fireworks. No doubt some people will be using fireworks to celebrate the May 24th holiday weekend. Maughan suggest that anyone planning fireworks for this weekend contact their local municipality and use extreme caution when setting them off. He advised those in charge to dispose of spent tubes and fireworks holders in a safe manner afterwards.

FIRE & WATER

Low rain and the demands of the Trent Canal could see water levels drop even further

to Bruce Kitchen, of the Parks Canada Peterborough office. At this time of year, the average levels should be at one hundred per cent or more. "There hasn't been a lot of change," said Kitchen. "The lakes are still holding, but we can only wait another week before we will have to draw water."

Currently almost all of the dams are closed to retain water, but may be opened by next week.

Kitchen stated that the Kawartha lakes are full and navigable for the upcoming boating season. The Trent/Severn Waterway opens on the Victoria Day long weekend.

Water levels in Peterborough and further south are low, according to Kitchen, and although they have been able to get by with the current levels, he anticipates opening dams in the northern regions will be necessary by next week. The lakes in the

(more on page 3)

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Haliburton Acreage \$349,000

- 52-acre parcel outside of town
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Adele Barry
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- Access to Pine, Green, Maple lakes
- Close to amenities



Dagmar Boettcher**
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Hunter Creek Rd

- 88 acre Class B licensed pit and quarry
- 66 acres extractable on yr round road
- Gorgeous flagstone granite ridge
- Potential to sever some lots



Andy Campbell
854-0292

Acreage & Building Lot \$579,000

- 98 Acres!!
- Several Building Sites Available to Choose From
- Hwy #35 by Halls Lake



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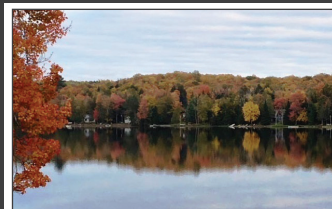
- 330 Ft Rd Frtg, 3130 Sq Ft, Attached Garage
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Haliburton Acreage \$449,000

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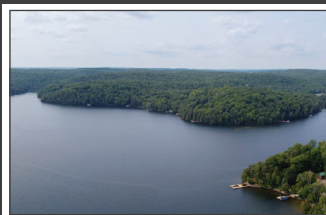
- Complete privacy on 41 acres
- Custom built (2006) off grid home
- 4 bedrooms & 3 bathrooms
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Black Lake \$960,000

- 1.75-acre parcel with 225 feet of frontage
- 2-bedroom cottage with ideal footprint
- 2 car garage with year-round apartment
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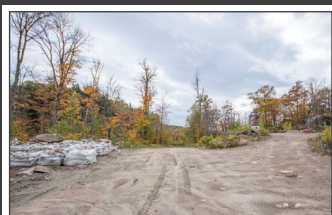
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Highway 118 \$199,000 +HST

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Karen Nimigon**
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Miners Lake \$399,000

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- Private 4.4 acre lot minutes to Haliburton



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447-2055

Tory Hill

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Christine Sharp*
705-489-9968

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Greg Stamp*
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Eighth Lane \$299,000

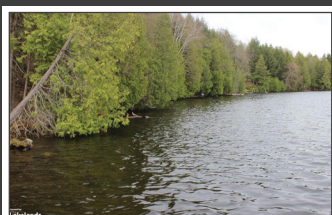
- Year Round Living in Hunter Creek Estates
- 2 Bdrm / 1 Bath
- Minutes from Town of Minden



Melanie Vigrass*
286-2138 x 232

3 Bedroom Home

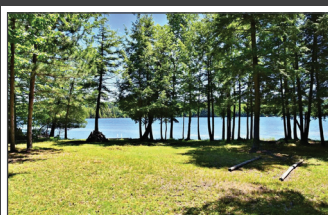
- Open Concept Living
- Full, Walk-out Basement
- 1.5 acres, Centrally Located between Minden and Haliburton



Lindsay Wilkinson*
286-2138 x 223

Salerno Lake \$349,000

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- 1.17 acres
- Sunset exposure
- Ideal for walkout basement



Andrea Wilson**
705-457-6694

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